

**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
LOWER COOK INLET FINFISH
NOVEMBER 30–DECEMBER 3, 2016**

PROPOSAL 1 – 5 AAC 77.549. Personal Use Coho Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

Amend the fishing season and closed waters so that personal use fishery does not open on a fixed date, as follows:

5 AAC 77.549(a) and (b)(3) are amended to read:

(a) In the Southern District, only in a year in which a subsistence fishery is not conducted in the same area, salmon may be taken for personal use under the plan set out in this section **beginning at 6:00 a.m. on the first Monday or Thursday following August 15, until the last Wednesday or Saturday before September 16 and only** [FROM AUGUST 16 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15,] from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday. The commissioner shall close this fishery by emergency order when a guideline harvest range of 1,000 – 2,000 coho salmon have been taken. Coho salmon taken under 5 AAC 01.560(b)(8)(B) will be counted toward the guideline harvest range established under this subsection.

(b) Salmon may not be taken in the following waters:

...

(3) those waters described in **5 AAC 21.350(d)(1) – (3)** [5 AAC 21.350(d)(1), (d)(3) – (d)(8)], (h), and (i);

What is the issue that you would like the board to address and why? Historically there has been confusion when the opening and closure dates fall within the proscribed fishing periods. The department would issue an emergency order clarifying this in the manner specified in the suggested language. In addition, within this regulation, references are made to 5 AAC 21.350. *Closed waters*. Since this regulation was first adopted, there have been changes made to 5 AAC 21.350 without appropriate adjustments being made to the references.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F16-125)
