PROPOSAL 140

5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

Prohibit use of drift gillnet gear for commercial salmon fishing in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area during the 2018–2020 fishing seasons, as follows:

(d)(3) except as specified in [(4) AND (5) of] this subsection, in establishing emergency order openings for the **2018-2020 fishing season, net harvest is limited to seine only.** [PURSE SEINE AND DRIFT GILLNET FISHERIES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ROTATE OPENINGS BETWEEN THESE GEAR GROUPS AND SHALL PROVIDE FOR A TIME RATIO FOR GILLNETT OPENINGS TO SEINE OPENINGS OF TWO TO ONE:]

[(4)(A)(B)(C)]

[(5)(A)(B)(I)(II)]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The gillnet fleet has abundant fishing opportunity and has been very effective at harvesting the majority of the Anita Bay returns in their traditional common property openings in District 108. The seine fleets only real opportunity to access these fish is in the Terminal Harvest Area (THA). The gillnet harvest value has averaged 155% of their mid-point allocation range over the last 10 years while the seine fleet is below their lower allocation range. This action would give additional fishing opportunity to the seine fleet in the Anita THA to help balance the allocation imbalance between the net fleets.