

PROPOSAL 148

5 AAC 33.369. District 1: Herring Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

Expand the Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area to provide additional sport fishing opportunity for hatchery-produced king salmon, as follows:

Open an additional sub-area to the Ketchikan Sport Terminal Hatchery Area (STHA) with a two fish daily bag limit, that coincides with the opening and closing of the Ketchikan STHA. This daily bag limit would not count against any annual limits.

This sub-area would abut the southern edge of the STHA in area 101-27 In Nichols Passage and extend further south to Hid Reef on the eastern corner, to the junction of 101-25 and 101-29 In Clarence Strait, and continue northward within area 101-29 to a line extending due west (True) from South Valenar Point to the western boundary of 101-29. It should be noted that this sub-area is extremely small in comparison to the Spring Troll Access Area for commercial harvesters. (See attached diagram of proposed sub-area)*

This increased access would help alleviate the inequities between Inside and Outside sport fisheries in the early days of each season, and increase marketability of Inside sport fisheries, thereby stretching the season and increasing benefits to the local economy. It would benefit sport fishers In years of low Treaty King Salmon abundance, and would also reduce gear conflicts In the Neats Bay Chum Salmon troll fishery and seine and gillnet King Salmon fisheries Inside the Neats Bay THA by giving sport fishhersh an alternative access to hatchery King Salmon.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Increase access to hatchery raised King Salmon in the Ketchikan area. Current regulations ensure that sport fishermen continue to lose the opportunity to catch hatchery King Salmon by not allowing increased bag limits in areas of increased hatchery abundance.

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F17-085)

**Proposal submission instructions indicate any additional information provided with the form, such as tables, Internet web links, or charts, will not be included in the proposal book. The referenced graph will be included in the public comment material for the appropriate meeting.*
