PROPOSAL 149

5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.

Extend the closing date for salmon harvest by the hatchery permit holder in Deep Inlet Special Harvest Area, as follows:

(a) The following special harvest areas are established for the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association:

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(7) Deep Inlet for king, chum, and coho salmon: the waters of Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point on the westernmost end of Cape Burunoff at 56_59.04' N. lat., 135_23.23' W. long., to a point west of Cape Burunoff at 56_59.11' N. lat., 135_23.59' W. long., to a point one-half mile west of the westernmost tip of Long Island at 57_00.17' N. lat., 135_22.69' W. long., to the westernmost tip of Long Island, to the easternmost tip of Long Island, to the westernmost tip of Error Island, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island, to the southernmost tip of Berry Island, to the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57_00.30' N. lat., 135_17.67' W. long., to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57_00.08' N. lat., 135_16.78' W. long., and then to a point on the Baranof Island shore at 56_59.93' N. lat., 135_16.53' W. long. will be open for harvest by the hatchery permit holder from 12:01 a.m. June 15 until 11:59 p.m. October 31 [September 15], except Sandy Cove is closed south of 56_59.05' N. lat.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association's Bear Cove and Deep Inlet Special Harvest Areas (SHA) closing dates do not align. The Bear Cove closure is October 31 due to late returning coho. However, at Deep Inlet where the majority of the coho smolt are released and return, the regulation closes the SHA in mid-September. NSRAA needs the ability to collect broodstock and/or harvest in Deep Inlet through the end of October. It now requires an EO to do so.

NSRAA proposes a simple date change to [October 31] in the (7) Deep Inlet section. No other changes needed.