

PROPOSAL 181

5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer salmon troll fishery.

Reduce the percentage of remaining commercial king salmon troll fishery harvest taken during the initial summer king salmon retention period from 70% to 60% during years of high king salmon abundance, as follows:

(c)(1)(A) to take **60** [70] percent of the remaining king salmon harvest **if the preseason abundance index is above 1.60 or take 70% of the remaining king salmon harvest if below 1.60**

...

(2)(A) if approximately **60 or** [70] percent or more (**depending on the pre-season abundance index**) ...

(B) If the department determines that less than **40** or [30]in that opening **depending on the preseason abundance index.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like to amend 5 AAC 29.100 (C) (1) (a) and (2) (A) and (B) to take 60% of the remaining king salmon harvest if the pre-season abundance index is above 1.60 (70% is the existing regulation and would remain in effect if the pre-season abundance index is below 1.60). The five main reasons to decrease the % to 60% on high abundance seasons:

1. Higher value for larger average size King salmon in late seasons;
2. Higher quality product;
3. Minimizes incidental hook and release of king salmon due to less non-retention days;
4. Spreads the income derived from king salmon more evenly among the fleet;
5. Greater opportunity for in-season management during the late season opening.

PROPOSED BY: John Murray

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