

**PROPOSAL 231**

**5 AAC 05.360. Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan.**

Repeal the prohibition on subsistence fishing in Yukon River Districts 1 and 2 during the first pulse of king salmon, as follows:

5 AAC 05.360 is amended to read:

(J) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the department shall manage the king salmon subsistence fishery in Districts 1 – 6 during the first pulse of the historical three distinctive pulses of king salmon that enter the Yukon River drainage, as follows:

[(1) IN DISTRICTS 1 AND 2, TO ACCOUNT FOR THE UNCERTAINTY IN THE PRESEASON KING SALMON RUN PROJECTIONS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE THE KING SALMON SUBSISTENCE FISHERY CONSERVATIVELY AND NOT OPEN ANY SUBSISTENCE FISHING PERIODS DURING THE FIRST PULSE OF KING SALMON ENTERING THE DISTRICTS;]

[(2) IN DISTRICTS 3-6.]

**(1) if inseason run assessment information indicates insufficient abundance of king salmon to meet escapement objectives on specific components of the run and subsistence harvest needs, the department will not open any subsistence fishing periods during the first pulse implemented chronologically in the applicable district, consistent with migratory -timing as the king salmon run progresses upstream;**

**(2) if inseason run assessment information indicates sufficient abundance of king salmon to meet escapement objectives on specific components of the run and subsistence harvests needs, subsistence fishing will revert to the fishing periods as specified in (d) of this section.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The mandatory first pulse king salmon subsistence fishing closure in Yukon River Districts 1 and 2 is unnecessary and has resulted in the unintended consequence of causing a hardship to subsistence fishers when the Yukon River king salmon run is strong and fishing restrictions are not needed to meet escapement goals. The current regulation unnecessarily restricts the department and does not allow the department to meet the objective of the Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kwik’pak Fisheries, LLC

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