

**PROPOSAL 30**

**5 AAC 24.350. Closed waters.**

Repeal certain closed waters provisions in the Copper River District commercial drift gillnet salmon fishery, as follows:

The gillnet fishery of the Copper River shall take place from the Grass banks of the Copper River Delta to the seaward boundary.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Traditional inside water fishing grounds which gillnetters have fished for decades have been virtually eliminated. Gillnetters have been increasingly forced into an ocean fishery. A fishery which increases the risks of interception of stocks not bound for the Copper River. Additionally the expenses and dangers associated with an ocean fishery are far higher. In order to ensure that interception of non-Copper River stocks be reduced, the fishery should take place up to the grass banks of the Copper River Delta.

**PROPOSED BY:** Warren Chappell

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