

PROPOSAL 153

5 AAC 33.360. District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Repeal the *District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan*, as follows:

[ON AND AFTER THE THIRD SUNDAY IN JULY IN DISTRICT 1, WHEN A PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS HARVESTING PINK SALMON STOCKS SUBJECT TO CONCURRENT SALMON FISHING BY DRIFT GILLNETS IN SECTION 1-B, THE FOLLOWING TIME FORMULA APPLIES:

- (1) WHEN THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS OPEN FOR ANY PORTION OF ONE DAY DURING A FISHING WEEK, THE DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY MUST BE OPEN FOR 48 HOURS DURING THE SAME FISHING WEEK;
- (2) WHEN THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS OPEN FOR ANY PORTION OF TWO DAYS DURING A FISHING WEEK, THE DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY MUST BE OPEN FOR 96 HOURS DURING THE SAME FISHING WEEK;
- (3) WHEN THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS OPEN FOR ANY PORTION OF THREE OR MORE DAYS DURING A FISHING WEEK, THE DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY MUST BE OPEN FOR 120 HOURS DURING THE SAME FISHING WEEK.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The gillnet fleet is not managed for pink salmon abundance, so it doesn't make sense to link the seine opportunity to gillnet access. When these regulations were adopted, gillnet opportunities in 1-B were significantly less than they are today. The success of the Nakat enhanced production in this area has generated opportunity far beyond wild pink salmon abundance opportunities. We view this as housekeeping.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) (EF-F17-093)

PROPOSAL 154

5 AAC 33.XXX. New Section.

Establish a management plan for pink salmon in Lower Clarence Strait, as follows:

Reinstate the *Lower Clarence Strait Pink Salmon Management plan* with modifications.

Proposed Language:

- (1) During the month of August when seine is open in District 2 the top portion is gillnet exclusive from a line south of the latitude of Adams Point and north of a line at the latitude of Ingraham Point.
 - (a) For every 15 hours seine opening in District 2 gillnet will receive 24 hours. For every 39 hours seine opening in District 2 gillnet will receive 48 hours.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The gillnet fleet in Southeast Alaska have a rough management goal to receive 5 percent of the pink salmon yearly harvest. This average has not been reached in recent years with a 20 year average of 3.5 percent harvest of pink salmon by gillnet. If nothing changes, the gillnet fleet will lose opportunity to harvest wild pink

salmon. This proposal is brought to the Board because there is historical participation in District 2 by gillnet to relieve pink salmon harvest imbalance. We feel that harvesting in this district will not negatively impact the biological health of the resource.

PROPOSED BY: United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) (HQ-F17-078)

PROPOSAL 155

5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.

Eliminate the wild sockeye salmon harvest limit for the District 12 commercial salmon purse seine fishery, as follows:

(a)

...

[(2)THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE THE SEINE FISHERY IN DISTRICT 12 NORTH OF POINT MARSDEN DURING JULY AFTER 15,000 WILD SOCKEYE SALMON ARE TAKEN, AS DESCRIBED IN THIS PARAGRAPH; DURING THE OPENINGS, THE DEPARTMENT WILL USE AERIAL FLYOVERS, ON-THE-GROUND SAMPLING INTERVIEWS, AND FISH TICKETS TO ESTIMATE THE SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST NORTH OF POINT MARSDEN IN DISTRICT 12 AND IN THE AMALGA HARBOR SPECIAL HARVEST AREA IN DISTRICT 11; HATCHERY-PRODUCED SOCKEYE SALMON WILL NOT COUNT AGAINST THE 15,000 SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST LIMIT; THE WILD SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST THAT WILL COUNT AGAINST THE 15,000 SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST LIMIT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ALL WILD SOCKEYE SALMON HARVESTED BY SEINE VESSELS THAT THE DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIES AS FISHING NORTH OF POINT MARSDEN IN DISTRICT 12 DURING ANY JULY FISHING PERIOD WHEN OTHER AREAS ARE OPEN CONCURRENTLY; AND

(B) THROUGH THE 2017 SEASON, UP TO 2,000 WILD SOCKEYE SALMON HARVESTED IN COMMON PROPERTY FISHERIES IN THE AMALGA HARBOR SPECIAL HARVEST AREA IN DISTRICT 11 WHEN THE ENTIRE COMMON PROPERTY HARVEST AREA IS OPEN.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Foregone opportunity by the purse seine fleet on north and south bound pink salmon stocks that are excess to escapement needs.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) (EF-F17-081)

PROPOSAL 156

5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.

Change time period the District 12 commercial salmon purse seine fishery wild sockeye salmon harvest cap is in effect to reflect current sockeye salmon run timing, as follows:

Modify the Hawk Inlet commercial wild sockeye cap of 15,000.

Proposed language:

(1) Between Stat week 28 and Stat week 33, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

- (a) The department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden prior to Stat week 33, after 15,000 wild sockeye are taken; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye harvest limit; during the openings the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling and interviews to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden.
- (b) All incidental wild sockeye salmon harvested in District 11-A Amalga SHA common property seine fishery will be counted against the cap of 15,000 sockeye salmon.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The original Hawk Inlet shoreline sockeye cap was instituted in 1989, almost 30 years ago; the goal was to conserve northern migrating wild sockeye salmon. While the causes of climate change continue to be debated, the science of climate change and its effects are undeniable. The data shows later, more condensed sockeye run timing migrating through northern southeast Alaska. Therefore, the dates of the Hawk Inlet shoreline sockeye cap should be shifted to continue to conserve the northern southeast Alaska sockeye stocks of: Chilkoot, Chilkat, Berners Bay, Taku, Speel, and Crescent. Failure to do so ignores climate change and the shift in wild sockeye salmon run timings that have occurred in northern southeast Alaska since 1989.

PROPOSED BY: United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) (HQ-F17-076)

PROPOSAL 157

5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.

Include wild sockeye salmon harvested in the Amalga Harbor Special Harvest Area in the District 12 commercial salmon purse seine fishery wild sockeye harvest limit, as follows:

(a) During July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

(1) the department may open only those portions of the area in which a harvestable abundance of pink salmon is observed; open areas and times must consider conservation concerns for all species in the area;

(2) the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken; hatchery produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden **including wild sockeye salmon harvested by the seine fleet in a common property opening of the Amalga SHA for chum salmon** during any July fishing period when other areas are open concurrently will be counted against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit under this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling, and interviews to estimate the sockeye harvest north of Point Marsden.

(b) Salmon may be taken during emergency order openings for chum salmon in Excursion Inlet only in waters of Section 14-C north of the latitude of the northern tip of the Porpoise Islands; the department may open the area by emergency order only after consideration of concerns for chum and coho salmon conservation.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A common property seine fishery in Amalga Harbor SHA occurred the first time in 2012. After five years of seine opportunities in the Amalga Harbor SHA it is felt that the additional harvest of sockeye occurring in the SHA by the seine fishery is affecting the migration of sockeye stocks to upper Lynn Canal and Taku. Sockeye salmon stocks in the area during July are Chilkoot, Chilkat, Berners Bay, Taku, Speel, and Crescent. The District 15 and District 11 gillnet fisheries are ending up on a 6” net restriction for sockeye conservation every year.

The purpose of this proposal would be to close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden once the sockeye cap is reached but that all wild sockeye caught north of Point Marsden including sockeye caught in District 11A is counted toward the sockeye cap.

PROPOSED BY: United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) (HQ-F17-076)

PROPOSAL 158

5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plans.

Include wild sockeye salmon harvested in the Amalga Harbor Special Harvest Area in the wild sockeye salmon harvest limit for the commercial salmon purse seine fishery in District 12, as follows:

(2) the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken; hatchery produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden **including all wild sockeye salmon harvested by the seine fleet in a common property opening of the Amalga SHA for chum salmon** during any July fishing period when other areas are open concurrently will be counted against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit under this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling, and interviews to estimate the sockeye harvest north of Point Marsden.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A purse seine fishery has been conducted in the Amalga Harbor special harvest area (SHA) since 2012 to harvest hatchery chum that exceed Douglas Island Pink and Chum’s (DIPAC’s) needs for cost recovery and broodstock. Although this fishery is conducted in a SHA there is still an incidental catch of wildstock fish including sockeye caught during the seine openings. Sampling from DIPAC has shown that the sockeye caught are composed of both wild stock and enhanced origins. To account for continued harvest of these mixed stock sockeye salmon by the seine fishery in the Amalga Harbor SHA all wild stock sockeye components of the catch in the Amalga SHA should count against the 15,000 wild sockeye cap.

PROPOSED BY: Ryan Cook

(EF-F17-103)
