

**PROPOSAL 134**

**5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.**

Repeal the current *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* and readopt the management plan in place prior to 2001, as follows:

Return the South Unimak District to its pre-2001 status. Remove the entire Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof Bay Sections of the South Central District from the South Unimak District. Return the Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof Sections of the South Central District to their pre-2001 June South Peninsula management plan for those areas.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In February 2004, the BOF modified the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Fisheries Management Plan (5 AAC 09.365). The Board established a new, expanded fishing schedule, removed previously enacted chum salmon harvest restrictions, and the *South Unimak fishery was expanded to include the entire Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof Bay sections of the South Central District*. The inclusion of the entire Southwestern District and West and East Pavlof Bay Sections into the South Unimak June Fishery Management Plan has had a severely detrimental impact on Chignik Fishermen due to high interception rates of Chignik bound sockeye in areas historically closed during the South Unimak June fishery. In essence, the Board created a new, expansive interception fishery on fully allocated Chignik stocks that has severely damaged all Chignik fishermen and the entire Chignik region.

**PROPOSED BY:** Axel Kopun

(EF-F18-058)

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## **PROPOSAL 135**

### **5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.**

Repeal the current *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* and readopt an amended version of the management plan in place prior to 2001, as follows:

Erase all of the current 5 AAC 09.365 and replace with the following, edited language from the 2001-2003 plan;

#### **5 AAC 09.365. SOUTH UNIMAK AND SHUMAGIN ISLANDS JUNE SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN (2001-2002).**

(a) The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June fisheries harvest [BOTH] **chinook salmon**, sockeye salmon and chum salmon in a mixed stock fishery. These stocks of salmon are bound for Bristol Bay and the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim region, as well as other areas across the North Pacific Ocean. These salmon stocks have historically been intercepted in significant numbers along the Alaska Peninsula. To ensure that none of these salmon stocks are overharvested, it is necessary to restrain the interception of these stocks as provided in the management plan in this section, and consistent with the Policy for the Management of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (5 AAC 39.222) and Policy for the Management of Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries (5 AAC 39.220)

(b) The South Unimak fishery takes place in the Unimak District, the Ikatan Bay Section in the Southwestern District, and the Bechevin Bay Section in the Northwestern District, plus the following waters of the Southwestern District located outside of the Ikatan Bay Section and not described as closed waters in 5 AAC 09.350;

(1) waters north and west of a line from Cape Pankof Light to Thin Point (54° 57.32' N. lat., 162° 33.50' W. long.); and

(2) waters enclosed by a line from Thin Point (54° 57.32' N. lat., 162 ° 33.50' W. long.) to the northernmost tip of Stag Point (54° 59.10' N. lat., 162° 18.10' W. long.) on Deer Island to the southernmost tip of Dolgoi Cape (55 ° 03.15' N. lat., 161 ° 44.35' W. long.) on Dolgoi Island and from the northernmost tip of Bluff Point (55° 09.93' N. lat., 161° 53.72' W. long.) on Dolgoi Island to ArchPoint Light (55° 12.30' N. lat., 161 ° 54.30' W. long.).

(c) The Shumagin Islands fishery takes place in the Shumagin Islands Section.

(d) Beginning June 10 **through June 30**, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, commercial fishing periods for purse seine and drift gillnet gear as follows:

(1) commercial fishing periods may occur only from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and may not be open for more than

(A) three days in any seven-day period;

(B) 16 hours per day;

(C) 48 hours in any seven-day period;

(D) two consecutive 16-hour fishing periods in any seven-day period;

[(2) THROUGH JUNE 24, COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS IN THE SHUMAGIN ISLANDS AND SOUTH UNIMAK FISHERIES WILL OCCUR AT THE SAME TIME;

(3) AFTER JUNE 24, THE PROVISIONS OF (F) APPLY.]

(e) Beginning June 10, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, commercial fishing periods for set gillnet gear in both the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands fisheries as follows:

(1) from June 10 through [JUNE 24] **June 30**,

(A) commercial fishing periods may occur only from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.;

[(B) THE FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE PERIOD IF, DURING THE PRECEDING PERIOD, THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS NOT EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN THE RECENT 10 YEAR AVERAGE;

(2) AFTER JUNE 24, THE SCHEDULE OF OPENINGS AND CLOSINGS OF FISHING PERIODS SHALL COINCIDE WITH THE SCHEDULE FOR SEINE AND DRIFT GILLNET GEAR AS SPECIFIED IN (F) OF THIS SECTION.

(F) AFTER JUNE 24, IN EITHER THE SOUTH UNIMAK OR SHUMAGIN ISLANDS FISHERIES,

(1) IF THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS TWO TO ONE OR LESS ON ANY DAY, THE NEXT DAILY FISHING PERIOD FOR SEINE AND DRIFT GILLNET GEAR SHALL BE OF SIX-HOUR DURATION IN THAT FISHERY;

(2) IF THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS GREATER THAN TWO TO ONE, THE COMMISSIONER MAY EXTEND THE FISHING PERIOD BY EMERGENCY ORDER, TO A MAXIMUM OF 16 HOURS AS DESCRIBED IN (D)(L ) OF THIS SECTION;

(3) IF THE RATIO OF SOCKEYE SALMON TO CHUM SALMON IS TWO TO ONE OR LESS FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE FISHING PERIODS, THE FISHERY SHALL CLOSE FOR ALL GEAR TYPES.]

(g) All salmon caught by a CFEC permit holder must be retained, and each CFEC permit holder must report the number of salmon caught, including those taken but not sold, on an ADF&G fish ticket. For the purposes of this subsection, "caught" means brought on board the vessel.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Excessive harvest of migrating discrete stocks of concern in the Cook Inlet, Bristol Bay, and AYK areas.

**PROPOSED BY:** Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(EF-F18-099)

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**PROPOSAL 136**

**5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.**

Amend the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* so that fishing periods are structured with 24-hour windows where commercial salmon fishing gear is in the water, as follows:

Amend regulation 5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan to allow for at least a 24 hour closure between the openings for each gear type in the Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof sections of the South Central District so Chignik bound sockeye have an opportunity to pass through the area. The regulation would read like this:

5 AAC 09.365 **(g) notwithstanding (d) of this section;**

**(1) For set net gear,**

**(A) Beginning June 7, commercial fishing periods in the Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof Bay sections of the South Central District will begin at 6 a.m. and run 42 hours until midnight the next day; commercial fishing will then close for 54 hours and reopen at 6 a.m. three days later.**

**(2) For seine and drift gillnet gear,**

**(A) Beginning June 10, commercial fishing periods in the Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof Bay sections of the South Central District will begin at 6 a.m. and run 42 hours until midnight the next day; commercial fishing will then close for 54 hours and reopen at 6 a.m. three days later.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, as written, adopted and implemented in 2004, results in fishing gear being in the water continuously from June 7 to June 29. When the set-netters are closed, the seiners and drifters are open. Then when the seiners and drifters close, the set-netters are fishing. The result is continuous fishing from June 7 through June 29. When coupled with the fact the Board expanded the South Unimak fishery to include the entire Southwestern District and the West and East Pavlof Bay sections of the South Central District at the same time, the result is Chignik bound sockeye are harvested continually throughout the month of June as they pass through the Southwestern District, the West and East Pavlof Bay sections of the South Central District and the Shumagin Islands. This has resulted in a tremendous surge in the interception of Chignik bound sockeye, which are abundant in the area at this time.

**PROPOSED BY:** Gary Anderson

(EF-F18-066)

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## **PROPOSAL 137**

### **5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, and 5 AAC 09.366. Post June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.**

Expand geographic scope of the Dolgoi Island Area as defined in the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management* and *Post June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula*, as follows:

#### **5 AAC 09.365 (f): replace and amend to read:**

Notwithstanding (d) of this section, commercial salmon fishing will close in the waters of the Dolgoi Island Area, defined as statistical areas 283-20 thru 283-26 and 284-36 thru 284-42, when the catch reaches 191,000 sockeye salmon based on fish ticket information.

#### **5 AAC 09.366. Post June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.**

##### **amend (b) to read:**

Beginning 1 July and extending through July 25 commercial salmon fishing periods in the waters of the Dolgoi Island Area, defined as statistical areas 283-15 thru 283-26 and 284-36 thru 284-42, will be equivalent and concurrent with that provided in waters of the SEDM as regulated on the harvest of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon July 1 - July 25 in accordance with 5 AAC 09.360.

##### **amend (j) to read:**

Notwithstanding (b) as amended above, the commercial salmon fishery through July 25 will close in the waters of the Dolgoi Island Area, defined as statistical areas 283-15 thru 283-26 and 284-36 thru 284-42, when the harvest of 191,000 sockeye salmon is reached based on fish ticket information.

#### **What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? June - July 25 DOLGOI ISLAND FISHERY**

The Dolgoi Island Area fishery through July 25<sup>th</sup> needs to be modified for improved accountability and a stock conservation requirement on Chignik-bound sockeye salmon. Currently there is no provision to ensure that over-exploitation does not occur when Chignik's early and late run stocks are failing which happened in two of three years during the WASSIP study and again in 2014. In those years the Igvak and SEDM fisheries were closed to safeguard Chignik escapements and protect Chignik's harvest preference, and yet the Dolgoi Island Area was fished. As evident from the WASSIP study about one-half of the Dolgoi Island Area catch is migrating Chignik sockeye salmon.

The current regulation provides that only a portion of the Dolgoi Island Area fishery will close when 191,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested based on fish ticket information. That is not working for three reasons: 1.) Fishing is still permitted on east-bound Chignik fish in portions of the Dolgoi area not closed; 2.) When fish ticket numbers do reach 191k the Department is providing a 6- to 12 hours (depending on the year) extension to accommodate purse seine and gill net gear removal which therein permits more harvest beyond the intended 191k limit and; 3.) Very

importantly there is no control on the Dolgoi the harvest when Chignik is not achieving escapement and/or their terminal 600k harvest preference.

A reasonable solution is to regulate the Dolgoi Island Area fishery with a 191k sockeye limit applied to the entire area through July 25<sup>th</sup> and a stock conservation provision in July similar to that provided in the Igvak and SEDM Chignik interception fisheries. To the point, proposed is for the entire Dolgoi Island fishery from June 1 through July 25 to close once the catch reaches 191,000 sockeye salmon based on fish ticket information and with fishing periods beginning July 1 and ending on July 25 limited to the days and hours provided in the Southeast District Management Plan excluding the Northwest Stepovak Section which is managed as a terminal stock fishery.

Note: There is no intent to close any terminal-stock harvest area managed as such in the Dolgoi Island Area nor impact the SEDM fishery or its allocation

**PROPOSED BY:** George Anderson

(HQ-F18-006)

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## **PROPOSAL 138**

### **5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan. and 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.**

Amend the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* and the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula* to reduce commercial salmon fishing opportunity in the Dolgoi Island Area, as follows:

#### **5 AAC 09.365 (d): amend to include the following and repeal 5 AAC 09.365 (f).**

(\*) for set gillnet gear in the Dolgoi Island Area (Statistical Areas 283-20, 283-21, 283-23, 283-25, 283-26, 284-36 thru 284-39, and 284-42),

(A) beginning June 7 commercial fishing periods will begin at 6:00 a.m. and run 66 hours until 11:59 p.m. two days later; commercial fishing will then close for 54 hours and reopen at 6:00 a.m. three days later.

(B) notwithstanding (A) of this paragraph, the final commercial fishing period will end at 11:59 p.m. on June 28.

(\*) for seine and drift gillnet gear in the Dolgoi Island Area (Statistical Areas 283-20, 283-21, 283-23, 283-25, 283-26, 284-36 thru 284-39, and 284-42),

(A) beginning June 10 commercial fishing periods will begin at 6:00 a.m. and run 66 hours until 11:59 p.m. two days later; commercial fishing will then close for 54 hours and reopen at 6:00 a.m. three days later.

(B) notwithstanding (A) of this paragraph, the final commercial fishing period will end at 11:59 p.m. on June 27.

#### **5 AAC 09.366 (c): amend to include the following and repeal 5 AAC 09.366 (j).**

(\*) In the Dolgoi Island Area (Statistical Areas 283-20, 283-21, 283-23, 283-25, 283-26, 284-36 thru 284-39, and 284-42).

Amend (e) to read:

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of (d) of this section, commercial fishing periods will be equivalent and concurrent with that provided in waters of the SEDM as regulated on the harvest of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon July 1 - July 25 in accordance with 5 AAC 09.360.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Dolgoi Island Area Fishery of Area M South Peninsula June 1–July 25.

The Dolgoi Island Area fishery, June thru July 25, is absent of a stock-conservation assignment on Chignik-bound sockeye salmon and a parallel provision for ensuring a harvest preference for the Chignik terminal-stock fishery. Known is that the Dolgoi fishery targets primarily Bristol Bay (BB) and Chignik bound sockeye salmon, and other non-local sockeye stocks (Upper CI and Kodiak sockeye). While its impact on BB sockeye is rather negligible, the fishery substantially impacts eastward traveling sockeye salmon headed for Chignik. The WASSIP study verified such even during two of the three study years when the two Chignik runs were relatively weak (2007 & 08).



In 2007 and 2008, Area M's Southeastern District Mainland (SEDM) fishery was closed due to Chignik-run failures, but the Dolgoi Island Area fishery remained open. Similarly in Kodiak's 2008 Igvak fishery on Chignik-bound sockeye it too was completely closed and again, in 2014 along with the SEDM fishery. In those years Dolgoi Island Area fished without any limit on the harvest of Chignik-bound sockeye salmon or sharing in the conservation burden. It is quite reasonable for the Dolgoi fishery, based on the 2006-08 WASSIP study which identified an average 50% Chignik-stock component, to shoulder a conservation assignment on Chignik sockeye salmon along with a minimum harvest preference as provided in the Igvak and SEDM plans for the Area L Chignik fishery.

Certainly the Dolgoi Island Area fishery is historic. However, it has accelerated and now having more impact on Chignik-bound sockeye than in the past. Catch numbers have increased and the recently imposed 191,000 sockeye salmon limit is not comprehensive to where there is accounting for weakness or failures in either of the two Chignik runs. In the 2016 Dolgoi fishery 429,000 sockeye were harvested through July 25<sup>th</sup> and in 2017 the catch was 258,000. The excessive catches were due to a combination of factors but mainly owing to a false assumption that the cap would effectively prevent catches from exceeding a total of about 200,000 sockeye salmon through July 25<sup>th</sup>. Such was not the case. Of the 429,000 sockeye taken in the 2016 fishery 175,000 were harvested after the closure of the statistical areas covered by the cap. In 2017 66,000 sockeye salmon were harvested in excess of the 191,000 cap. Secondarily leading to those overages, management permitted continued fishing in the prescribed closed areas 12 hours after fish tickets tallied 191k and for 6 hours in the 2017 fishery. The justification cited was time needed to accommodate orderly gear removal. At Chignik in 2017 due to a poor second run mainly only 897,000 sockeye salmon were harvested, an amount 40% less than the averages for 2007-16 and 2012-16 and not enough to sustain the fleet and local villages without record high catches of other salmon species which thankfully occurred with the local pink and chum salmon runs. Reasonable safeguards are needed in the interception fisheries known to harvest strong numbers of Chignik bound sockeye salmon; the Board has acknowledged this in the current Igvak and SEDM plans, and this is needed in the Dolgoi Island fishery to safeguard, as best possible, the economic and cultural viability of the Chignik salmon fishery.

As current regulations stand the Dolgoi Island Area fishes regardless of whether the early and/or late Chignik runs fail or where escapement needs are barley met or even not met which could be the case for the 2018 early run. Presently, ADF&G is projecting the lower end on the 80% confidence range on Chignik's 2018 first-run to be zero (0) fish----- no catch or escapement.

The change being proposed is to adjust the fishing time in June in the Dolgoi Island Area to 75% of the current assigned time through June and thereafter, July 1-25, provide fishing time equivalent and concurrent with that provided in waters of the SEDM as regulated on the interception of Chignik bound sockeye salmon. But importantly, none of the Dolgoi sockeye salmon catch would be assigned to or against the 7.6% SEDM-Chignik allocation, and there would **not be** a 191,000 sockeye cap imposed on the Dolgoi Island Area Fishery June 1-July 25 as provided in current regulation.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jacob Shangin

(HQ-F18-007)

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**PROPOSAL 139**

**5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, and 5 AAC 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.**

Repeal Dolgoi Island Area-related regulations from the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan* and the *Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula*, as follows:

**REPEAL 5 AAC 09.365(f)** of the South Unimak & Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan and **5 AAC 09.366(j)** of the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** We would like the Board to repeal the ‘Dolgoi area’ regulations in the South Unimak & Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan and in the Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula [5 AAC 09.365(f) & 5 AAC 09.366(j)] that would close statistical areas 283-26, 284-37, 284-38, 284-39 after the trigger of 191,000 sockeye are harvested in a larger area including statistical areas 283-15, 283-17, 283-20, 283-21, 283-23, 283-24, 283-25, 283-26, 284-36, 284-37, 284-38, 284-39, 284-42, based on fish ticket information.

According to WASSIP harvest rate data, the ‘Dolgoi area’ catch of Chignik bound salmon had a minimal (from less than 1% to a maximum of 7.4%) impact on the overall Chignik run for years 2006-2008.

The salmon fishing area impacted by these regulations is situated directly between the communities of King Cove and Sand Point.

While the department carried out the new 2016 regulations as written, and fishermen followed them, the closure that was predicted to happen only 3 or 4 times out of every 10 years, based on historical data, occurred every year since implementation as of this date. We believe that the attainment of the trigger of 191,000 sockeye each year has more to do with the recent 50,000,000+ Bristol Bay runs than Chignik sockeye intercept.

We have reviewed the Chignik daily harvest reports over the past years since the 2016 implementation of the ‘Dolgoi area’ regulations. Looking at the data we see a direct connection between Chignik Management Area commercial harvest and CMA sockeye escapement, however we do not find a definitive link with the annual Dolgoi closure and an increase in Chignik sockeye escapement.

The regulations are being implemented as intended but are not accomplishing the intended purpose to increase Chignik escapement/harvest. The regulations are unnecessary and overly burdensome on Area M fishermen.

**PROPOSED BY:** King Cove Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F18-041)

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**PROPOSAL 140**

**5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan.**

Include the area from Cape Tolstoi to McGinty Point in the area open to commercial fishing for salmon under the *South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan*, as follows:

5 AAC 09.365(c) The Shumagin Islands June fishery takes place in the Shumagin Islands Section and the area from Cape Tolstoi to McGinty Point.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Areas in the south peninsula June fishery that are closed for no reason, causing loss of fishing opportunities.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sand Point Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F18-071)

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**PROPOSAL 141**

**5 AAC 09.365. South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Management Plan, and 09.366. Post-June Salmon Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.**

Repeal closed waters in the South Alaska Peninsula Area, as follows:

Repeal 5 AAC 09.365(f) of the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Management Plan and 5 AAC 09.366(j) of the Post-June Management Plan for the South Alaska Peninsula.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Lost fishing time and area in the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

**PROPOSED BY:** Sand Point Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F18-072)  
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