

PROPOSAL 111

5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.

Remove “paired” restrictions in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery, as follows:

Eliminate "paired restrictions" 5 AAC 21.359 (d)(2) drift (3) set gillnet fishing (e)(3) (A) and (B) subsections

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I want the board to address the "Paired Restrictions". Basing the management of commercial sockeye fishing on the sport fishing king run unfairly and unscientifically ties the biologists hands to correctly manage either, according to the "best scientific information available". The "best scientific information available" is a federal mandate. "The best interests of the economy and well being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle" is a charge to the commissioner by Alaska State Statute. The "Paired Restrictions" on the drift fleet and the set gillnet sockeye fishery are both unscientific, unfair and most likely illegal. The biologists agree, and I can produce published articles from the local biologists if needed, that these restrictions have resulted in the over escapement of sockeye salmon in both the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers. Over escapement means poor future runs and smaller fish, according to these same local biologists.

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