

PROPOSAL 174

5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

Prohibit set gillnets in the personal use salmon fishery if the king salmon sport fishery in the Kenai or Kasilof Rivers is restricted, as follows:

f. If the Kenai or Kasilof is restricted to bait or retention of King Salmon, the personal use fishery is limited to dipnet only.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Interception of early run King Salmon north of the Kasilof River in the personal use setnet fishery. Set nets are considered lethal gear and dipnets are not. The setnet fishery is a nondiscriminatory high impact fishery that does not allow for the viable release of early run Kenai King Salmon.

While in river, sportfishers over the last few years have been restricted. The personal use setnet fishery is relatively new, the fishery has not had an equal burden of conservation in ensuring early run King Salmon escapement goals. Make it all dipnet.

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