

Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan (5 proposals)

**PROPOSAL 58**

**5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.**

Close the Cape Igvak commercial salmon fishery prior to July 8, as follows:

The Board should amend 5 AAC 18.360, the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan, so that there is no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section before July 8. The regulation should be revised to read as follows:

(a) [In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved.] **There shall be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g), before July 8.** After July 8, [after] **if** at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

[(b) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of 300,000 sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.]

[(c)] **(b)** In years when a harvestable surplus beyond the escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 [and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected], the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

[(d)] **(c)** The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik Area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 90 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section. The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the cumulative Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

[(e)] **(d)** This allocation method will be in effect **between July 8 and** [through] July 25. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Cape Igvak Section will not occur

before [the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area] **July 8.**

[(f)] (e) [During the period from approximately June 26 through July 8,] **If** the strength of the second run of Chignik River system sockeye salmon cannot be evaluated **by July 8,** [. In order to prevent overharvest of the second run,] commercial salmon fishing in the Cape Igvak Section will, in the department's discretion, be disallowed or severely restricted [during this period].

[(g)] (f) The department shall announce commercial salmon fishing periods by emergency order. The department shall give at least one-day notice prior to the opening of a commercial salmon fishing period unless it is an extension of a fishing period in progress.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Board should amend the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan to reduce pressure placed on the Chignik commercial sockeye fishery by commercial salmon fishing that occurs in the Cape Igvak Section prior to July 8. When the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan was established in 1978, Kodiak’s annual sockeye harvested averaged fewer than 500,000. Kodiak’s sockeye harvests have rebounded dramatically, with an average harvest of 2.294 million sockeye per year in the past 10 years (2009-2018), and an average harvest of 2.541 million sockeye per year in the past 5 years. In contrast, commercial sockeye harvest in the Chignik Management Area has declined.

**PROPOSED BY:** Chignik Intertribal Coalition (EF-F19-075)  
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**PROPOSAL 59**

**5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.**

Modify the definition of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch used to determine allocation percentages in the *Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan*, as follows:

The Board should amend 5 AAC 18.360(d) as follows:

(d) The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik **Management** Area. [plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 90 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section.] The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the [cumulative Chignik sockeye salmon catch] **sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Management Area.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Board should revise how the term “total Chignik sockeye salmon catch” is defined in 5 AAC 18.360(d) because the current definition increases the allocation to the Cape Igvak Section if there is an allocation overage in SEDM or the Cape Igvak Section, to the detriment of harvests in the Chignik Management Area.

**PROPOSED BY:** George Anderson (EF-F19-076)  
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**PROPOSAL 60**

**5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.**

Reduce the Cape Igvak Section allocation from 15 percent to five percent of the total Chignik Area sockeye salmon catch, as follows:

The Board should amend 5 AAC 18.360, Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan, as follows:

(a) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000, there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section **shall not exceed** [will approach as near as possible 15] **5** percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(b) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000, but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of 300,000 sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least 600,000 and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section **shall not exceed** [will approach as near as possible 15] **5** percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(c) In years when a harvestable surplus beyond the escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak Section **shall not exceed** [will approach as near as possible 15] **5** percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

(d) The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik Area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, Southwest Stepovak, Stepovak Flats, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay Sections, as described in 5 AAC 09.200(f), plus 90 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak Section. The harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 25 may **shall not exceed** [be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15] **5** percent of the cumulative Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Board should reduce the allocation percentage in the Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. The Cape Igvak fishery's 15% allocation of Chignik-bound sockeye was implemented in 1978 when Kodiak sockeye stocks were severely depressed and Chignik sockeye stocks were doing exceptionally well. In the 41 years since then, Kodiak sockeye stocks are notably and exponentially healthier, raising serious questions about whether the 15% allocation is appropriate. Reducing the allocation will alleviate the economic pressure currently placed on Chignik and better align the Cape Igvak Management Plan with current fishery trends and economic realities.

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**PROPOSAL 61**

**5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.**

Amend the *Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan* to increase the minimum expected sockeye salmon harvest thresholds from 300,000 to 600,000 prior to July 8 and 600,000 to 1,000,000 fish after July 8, and from 600,000 to 1,000,000 fish in years when runs are as strong as expected, as follows:

5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan. **(a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide guidelines to the department for the management of the interception of Chignik River sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak fishery conducted in the Cape Igvak Section of the Kodiak Area.**

**(b)** [A] In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be less than **1,000,000** [600,000], there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak Section, as described in 5 AAC 18.200(g)(8), until a harvest of **600,000** [300,000] sockeye salmon in the Chignik Area, as described in 5 AAC 15.100, is achieved. **Prior to** [AFTER] July 8, after at least **600,000** [300,000] sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least **1,000,000** [600,000] and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

**(c)** [B] In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than **1,000,000** [600,000], but the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik Area of **1,000,000** [600,000] or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak Section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik Area of **600,000** [300,000] sockeye salmon by July **8** [9] if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. **Prior to** [AFTER] July 8, after at least **600,000** [300,000] sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik Area, and if escapement goals are being met, the department shall manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik Area will be at least **1,000,000** [600,000] and the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

**(d)** [C] In years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is expected to be more than **1,000,000** [600,000] and the department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the department will manage the fishery in such a manner whereby the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak Section will approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

**(e)** [D] The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch constitutes those sockeye salmon caught **prior to July 9** within the Chignik Area **only**. [PLUS 80 PERCENT OF THE SOCKEYE SALMON CAUGHT IN THE EAST STEPOVAK, SOUTHWEST STEPOVAK, STEPOVAK FLATS, BALBOA BAY, AND BEAVER BAY SECTIONS, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 09.200(f), PLUS 90 PERCENT OF THE SOCKEYE SALMON CAUGHT IN THE CAPE IGVAK SECTION.] **In**

**order to approach as near as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch,** the harvest in the Cape Igvak Section at any time before July 8 [25] may be permitted to fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the **total** [CUMULATIVE] Chignik sockeye salmon catch **as defined in this paragraph.**

**(f)** [E] This allocation method will be in effect through July 8 [25]. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Cape Igvak Section will not occur **within 72-hours of the start of the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik Area.** [BEFORE THE FIRST FISHING PERIOD OF THE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING SEASON IN THE CHIGNIK AREA]

**(g)** [F] During the period from approximately June 26 through July 8, the strength of the second run of Chignik River system sockeye salmon cannot be evaluated. In order to prevent overharvest of the second run, commercial salmon fishing in the Cape Igvak Section will, in the department's discretion, be disallowed or severely restricted during this period.

**(h)** [G] The department shall announce commercial salmon fishing periods by emergency order. The department shall give at least one-day notice prior to the opening of a commercial salmon fishing period unless it is an extension of a fishing period in progress.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan was established in 1978 and many of the assumptions made and safeguards instituted by the Board when adopting the plan 41 years ago have since been found to be incorrect and/or have become obsolete with the passage of time, resulting in an interception fishery that has an even greater negative impact on the Chignik fishery than when the plan was first implemented.

**PROPOSED BY:** Axel Kopun

(EF-F19-078)

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**PROPOSAL 62**

**5 AAC 18.355. Reporting Requirements; and 5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.**

Require reporting prior to commercial fishing in the Cape Igvak Section and upon leaving the section, as follows:

5 AAC 18.355. Reporting Requirements.

**(c) Prior to July 9, the owner or operator of a commercial fishing vessel operating seine gear in the Kodiak Area shall report by telephone, radio, or in person to a local representative of the department prior to fishing in the Cape Igvak Section. Said owner or operator will also report by telephone, radio, or in person to a local representative of the department prior to departing the Cape Igvak Section.**

5 AAC 18.360. Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan.

**(h) In order to ensure accurate reporting of sockeye harvested in the Cape Igvak Section, at any time prior to July 9, the owner or operator of a commercial fishing vessel operating seine gear in the Kodiak Area shall report by telephone, radio, or in person to a local representative of the department prior to fishing in the Cape Igvak Section. Said owner or operator will also report by telephone, radio, or in person to a local representative of the department prior to departing the Cape Igvak Section.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** A strong incentive to underreport sockeye salmon harvested in the Cape Igvak Section exists. The Cape Igvak fishery is regulated based on the percentage of Chignik bound sockeye harvested, and with concurrent fisheries taking place not limited by an allocation, there is ample opportunity and a strong economic enticement to misreport.

**PROPOSED BY:** Axel Kopun

(EF-F19-079)

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