PROPOSAL 19

5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

Reduce the maximum harvest level in the Chitina Subdistrict Personal Use Fishery when the Copper River commercial fishery harvest is 50% below the 10-year average on June 1, as follows:

Amend the Copper River Personal Use Dipnet Salmon Fishery Management Plan to factor in the effect of a below-average run on projected in-river numbers and availability for harvest by the personal use fishery.

Add a new section under 5 AAC 77.591 to read:

If the Copper River District commercial harvest is 50% below the 10 year average by June 1 the maximum harvest level in the Chitina subdistrict will be reduced to 50,000 sockeye.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In years of low abundance, the commercial fishery typically bears the burden of conservation and sees significant reductions, but other user groups do not. In an effort for this burden of conservation to be shared amongst all user groups, we propose adopting a triggered regulation for conservation purposes.