Southeast and Yakutat Proposal Index

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SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT FINFISH AND SHELLFISH PROPOSALS

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King salmon

PROPOSAL 80

5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska -Yakutat Area.

Amend regulation to address payback provisions when the State of Alaska king salmon fisheries exceed Alaska's annual king salmon all-gear harvest ceiling, as follows:

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? King salmon management in Southeast Alaska (SEAK) is complex and involves regulatory processes in both international and domestic venues. At the international level, an all-gear harvest ceiling for SEAK king salmon fisheries is established annually, under provisions of the U.S./Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST). The SEAK king salmon annual all-gear harvest ceiling is then allocated between user groups according to regulation (5 AAC 29.060).

In August 2018, the Pacific Salmon Commission reached agreement to renew various fishery arrangements under the PST for the years 2019 to 2028. One significant change under the new PST is the requirement for Alaska to deduct any SEAK king salmon all-gear harvest ceiling overages in a particular year from the following year's all-gear harvest ceiling. Under existing regulation, the reduced all-gear harvest ceiling would then be allocated according to regulation, regardless of which fishery or fisheries caused the overage. Under current regulation the annual all-gear harvest ceiling is allocated to each fishery as follows:

1. Purse seine fishery: 4.3% percent of the annual all-gear harvest ceiling;
2. Drift gillnet fishery: 2.9% of the annual all-gear harvest ceiling;
3. Set gillnet fishery: 1,000 king salmon;
4. Troll fishery: 80%, after the net fishery allocations are subtracted from the annual all-gear harvest ceiling;
5. Sport fishery: 20%, after the net fishery allocations are subtracted from the all-gear annual harvest ceiling.

This proposal provides the board an opportunity to discuss whether harvest ceiling overages should be assigned to the fishery or fisheries that exceeded annual allocation.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-148)

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PROPOSAL 81

5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.

Allocate any Alaska all gear-allocation king salmon remaining after September 1 to the commercial troll fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.

(1) purse seine fishery: 4.3 percent of the annual harvest ceiling;

(2) drift gillnet fishery: 2.9 percent of the annual harvest ceiling;

(3) set gillnet fishery: 1,000 king salmon;

(4) troll fishery: 80 percent, after the net fishery allocations in (1) - (3) of this subsection are subtracted from the annual harvest ceiling;

(5) sport fishery: 20 percent, after the net fishery allocations in (1) - (3) of this subsection are subtracted from the annual harvest ceiling.
(6) After September 1, if the department determines that any of the above fisheries will not catch their entire allocation of treaty Chinook for the year, the troll fishery will be opened to harvest those excess Chinook.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The state of Alaska and industry has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars during the negotiation process of the Pacific Salmon Treaty to secure Southeast Alaska's share of treaty Chinook Salmon. It is a waste of funds and deprives the economy of Alaska to leave any of these Chinook salmon on the treaty table unharvested.

It also does not bode well for future negotiations, if Alaska has a record of not harvesting the treaty Chinook allocated to it. It is difficult to argue for more fish when data shows you aren't using what you have been given. After September the charter fisheries are at the end of their season and sport Chinook harvest is down to a trickle. The department at this time should be able to determine what, (if any), treaty Chinook each fishery will not harvest by the end of the year.

The troll fishery is best suited to harvest these fish via trip limit fishery or an unlimited opening if numbers warrant. Other fisheries lack the harvesting power and the controlled harvesting ability the troll fleet has on this species. Alaska needs to prepare for the 2029 treaty negotiations by creating a strong platform to negotiate from. This will benefit all Chinook user groups in the future.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Merritt (HQ-F20-118)
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PROPOSAL 82
5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.
Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to align with the provisions of the 2019–2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty annex, as follows:

5 AAC 47.055 is amended to read:
5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan
(a) The commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, the king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and all other necessary management measures based on the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery catch per unit effort (CPUE). The bag and possession limits and other management measures established by the commissioner will remain in effect until January 31 of the following year. If the new Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is not available by February 1, the bag and possession limits and other management measures for the remainder of the year will be based on the prior year's Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE, unless superseded by emergency order.
(b) The objectives of the management plan under this section are to
(1) manage the sport fishery to attain an average harvest of 20 percent of the annual harvest ceiling specified by the Pacific Salmon Commission, after the subtraction of the commercial net allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 from the harvest ceiling;

(2) allow uninterrupted sport fishing in salt waters for king salmon, while not exceeding the sport fishery harvest ceiling;

(3) minimize regulatory restrictions on resident anglers; and

(4) provide stability to the sport fishery by eliminating inseason regulatory changes, except those necessary for conservation purposes **or achieving the sport harvest allocation.**

(5) at Alaska winter troll fishery CPUEs less than 6.0 and equal to or greater than 2.6; a resident bag limit of two king salmon 28 inches or greater in length will be established in areas where conservation management measures for all anglers prohibited king salmon retention or closed fishing for king salmon once they reopen.

(6) at Alaska winter troll fishery CPUEs less than 6.0 and equal to or greater than 2.6; and the department projects that the king salmon sport harvest allocation is going to be exceeded, the department shall, by emergency order, adjust the nonresident seasons and bag limits so to stay within the sport allocation; the department shall prohibit resident king salmon retention or close the resident sport king salmon fishery only if nonresident angler closures are insufficient to remain within the sport fishery allocation.

(7) at Alaska winter troll fishery CPUEs less than 2.6 and equal to or greater than 2.0; and the department projects that the king salmon sport harvest allocation is going to be exceeded, the department shall, by emergency order, adjust the nonresident seasons and bag limits so that there are no closures for residents.

(c) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is equal to or greater than 20.5, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index greater than 2.2, the sport fishery harvest limit will be 69,000 treaty king salmon, and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of two king salmon in May and one king salmon in other months; a nonresident annual limit of five king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from October 1 through March 31, a sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(d) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 20.5 and equal to or greater than 8.7, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index of less than or equal to 2.2 and greater than 1.8, the sport fishery harvest limit will be 61,900 treaty king salmon, and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon; a nonresident annual limit of four king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from October 1 through March 31, a sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(e) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 8.7 and equal to or greater than 6.0, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index less than or equal to 1.8 and greater than 1.5, the sport fishery harvest limit will be 49,300 treaty king salmon, and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a resident bag limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon; a nonresident annual limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(f) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 6.0 and equal to or greater than 3.8, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index of less than or equal to 1.5 and greater than 1.2, the sport fishery harvest limit will be 37,900 treaty king salmon, and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures**:** [IN CONJUNCTION WITH WILD STOCK MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) in conjunction with wild stock management measures:

(**A** [1]) a bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(**B** [2]) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident total harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(**C** [3]) from July 1 through July 7, a nonresident total harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through July 7 will apply towards the two fish total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(**D** [4]) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon;

(**E** [5]) from July 8 through December 31, a nonresident total harvest limit of one king salmon; 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through December 31 will apply towards the one fish total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(2) when wild stock management measures are unnecessary:

(A) a bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) from January 1 through June 15, a nonresident total harvest limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 15 will apply towards the three fish total limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(C) from June 16 through December 31, a nonresident total harvest limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 15 will apply towards the one fish nonresident total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(D) from October 1 through March 31, a resident angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon;

[(6) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY NONRESIDENTS TO STAY WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION; THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY RESIDENTS ONLY IF NONRESIDENT ANGLER CLOSURES ARE INSUFFICIENT TO REMAIN WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION;

(7) IN THE HAINES AND SKAGWAY VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF CHILKAT INLET NORTH OF THE ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF SEDUCTION POINT, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JULY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF SECTION 13-C, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, SOUTHEAST OF A LINE FROM NISMENI POINT TO A POINT ON THE CHICHAGOF ISLAND SHORELINE AT 57° 35.59' N. LAT., 135° 22.33' W. LONG., A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(8) IN THE JUNEAU VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF SECTIONS 11-A, 11-B AND 11-C, DISTRICT 12. SECTIONS 14-B, 14-C, 15-B, AND 15-C, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF SECTION 11-D, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JULY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(9) IN THE PETERSBURG WRANGELL VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF DISTRICT 8, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 47.057(D), AND IN A PORTION OF DISTRICT 7, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, IN THE WATERS OF EASTERN PASSAGE WEST OF A LINE FROM A POINT ON WRANGELL ISLAND AT 56° 22.19' N. LAT., 132° 11.75' W. LONG., TO A POINT ON THE MAINLAND SHORE AT 56° 22.76' N. LAT., 132° 10.62' W. LONG., A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JULY 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF DISTRICT 5 NORTH OF A LINE FROM POINT BAKER TO A POINT ON THE SHORE OF KUIU ISLAND AT 56° 20.80' N. LAT., 133° 50.87' W. LONG., DISTRICT 6, DISTRICT 7 EXCLUDING THE WATERS OF EASTERN PASSAGE WEST OF A LINE FROM A POINT ON WRANGELL ISLAND AT 56° 22.19' N. LAT., 132° 11.75' W. LONG., TO A POINT ON THE MAINLAND SHORE AT 56° 22.76' N. LAT., 132° 10.62' W. LONG., DISTRICT 9 NORTH OF LINE FROM POINT ELLIS TO PATTERSON POINT, AND DISTRICT 10, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(10) IN THE KETCHIKAN VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF BEHM CANAL AND REVILLAGIGEDO CHANNEL AND THE CONTIGUOUS BAYS, BETWEEN A LINE FROM POINT EVA TO CACTUS POINT, AND A LINE FROM LUCKY POINT AT 55° 12.62' N. LAT., 131° 16.18' W. LONG., TO MIDDY POINT AT 55° 10.19' N., 131° 19.60' W. LONG., TO BEAVER POINT AT 55° 05.25' N. LAT., 131° 14.57' W. LONG., AND FROM POINT ROSEN AT 55° 04.74' N LAT., 131° 10.87' W. LONG., TO QUADRA POINT AT 55° 05.14' N. LAT., 130° 59.07' W. LONG., A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF WEST BEHM CANAL AND THE CONTIGUOUS BAYS ENCLOSED TO THE NORTH BY A LINE FROM THE WESTERN ENTRANCE OF BAILEY BAY AT 55° 56.04' N. LAT., 131° 37.94' W. LONG., TO THE

NORTHERN TIP OF HASSLER ISLAND AT 55° 54.28' N. LAT., 131° 37.80' W. LONG., AND A LINE FROM FIN POINT AT 55° 51.26' N. LAT., 131° 35.42' W. LONG., TO DRESS POINT AT 55° 51.15' N. LAT., 131° 33.75' W. LONG., AND TO THE SOUTH BY A LINE FROM INDIAN POINT AT 55° 36.87' N. LAT., 131° 42.07' W. LONG., TO MIKE POINT AT 55° 37.25' N. LAT., 131° 52.74' W. LONG.; A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(C) IN THE WATERS OF THE HERRING BAY SPORTFISH TERMINAL HARVEST AREA, WHICH INCLUDES THE WATERS OF NICHOLS PASS NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF DRIEST POINT, REVILLAGIGEDO CHANNEL NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF HARBOR POINT, AND TONGASS NARROWS SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE OF THE LEWIS REEF LIGHT, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(D) IN ALL REMAINING WATERS OF DISTRICTS 1 AND 2, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31.]

(g) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 3.8 and equal to or greater than 2.6, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index of less than or equal to 1.2 and greater than 1.0, the sport fishery harvest limit will be 25,800 treaty king salmon and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures**:** [in conjunction with wild stock management measures:]

(1) in conjunction with wild stock management measures:

(**A** [1]) a bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(**B** [2]) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident total harvest limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(**C** [3]) from July 1 through December 31, a nonresident total harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by the nonresident from January 1 through December 31 will apply toward the one fish total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(2) when wild stock management measures are unnecessary:

(A) a resident bag limit of one king salmon except from July 1 through July 31 resident anglers may not retain king salmon;

(B) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon except from July 1 through July 31 nonresident anglers may not retain king salmon;

(C) from January 1 through June 15, a nonresident total harvest limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(D)from June 16 through December 31, a nonresident total harvest limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and any king salmon 28 inches or greater in length harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 15 will apply towards the one fish nonresident total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

[(4) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY NONRESIDENTS TO STAY WITHIN

THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION; THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY RESIDENTS ONLY IF NONRESIDENT ANGLER CLOSURES ARE INSUFFICIENT TO REMAIN WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION;

(5) IN THE HAINES AND SKAGWAY VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF CHILKAT INLET NORTH OF THE ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF SEDUCTION POINT, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JULY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF SECTION 13-C, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, SOUTHEAST OF A LINE FROM NISMENI POINT TO A POINT ON THE CHICHAGOF ISLAND SHORELINE AT 57° 35.59' N. LAT., 135° 22.33' W. LONG., A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(6) IN THE JUNEAU VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF SECTIONS 11-A, 11-B, AND 11-C, DISTRICT 12, SECTIONS 14-B, 14-C, 15-B, AND 15-C, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF SECTION 11-D, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JULY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(7) IN THE PETERSBURG WRANGELL VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF DISTRICT 8, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 47.057(D), AND IN A PORTION OF DISTRICT 7, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, IN THE WATERS OF EASTERN PASSAGE WEST OF A LINE FROM A POINT ON WRANGELL ISLAND AT 56° 22.19' N. LAT., 132° 11.75' W. LONG., TO A POINT ON THE MAINLAND SHORE AT 56° 22.76' N. LAT., 132° 10.62' W. IONG., A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JULY 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF DISTRICT 5 NORTH OF LINE FROM POINT BAKER TO A POINT ON THE SHORE OF KUIU ISLAND AT 56° 20.80' N. LAT., 133° 50.87' W. LONG., DISTRICT 6, DISTRICT 7 EXCLUDING THE WATERS OF EASTERN PASSAGE WEST OF A LINE FROM A POINT ON WRANGELL ISLAND AT 56° 22.19' N. LAT., 132° 11.75' W. LONG., TO A POINT ON THE MAINLAND SHORE AT 56° 22.76' N. LAT., 132° 10.62' W. LONG., DISTRICT 9 NORTH OF A LINE FROM POINT ELLIS TO PATTERSON POINT, AND DISTRICT 10, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(8) IN THE KETCHIKAN VICINITY:

(A) IN THE WATERS OF BEHM CANAL AND REVILLAGIGEDO CHANNEL AND THE CONTIGUOUS BAYS, BETWEEN A LINE FROM POINT EVA TO CACTUS POINT, AND A LINE FROM LUCKY POINT AT 55° 12.62' N. LAT., 131° 16.18' W. LONG., TO MIDDY POINT AT 55° 10.19' N., 131° 19.60' W. LONG., TO BEAVER POINT AT 55° 05.25' N. LAT., 131° 14.57' W. LONG., AND FROM POINT ROSEN AT 55° 04.74' N LAT., 131° 10.87' W. LONG., TO QUADRA POINT AT 55° 05.14' N. LAT., 130° 59.07' W. LONG.,

A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(B) IN THE WATERS OF WEST BEHM CANAL AND THE CONTIGUOUS BAYS ENCLOSED TO THE NORTH BY A LINE FROM THE WESTERN ENTRANCE OF BAILEY BAY AT 55° 56.04' N. LAT., 131° 37.94' W. LONG., TO THE NORTHERN TIP OF HASSLER ISLAND AT 55° 54.28' N. LAT., 131° 37. 80' W. LONG., AND A LINE FROM FIN POINT AT 55° 51.26' N. LAT., 131° 35.42' W. LONG., TO DRESS POINT AT 55° 51.15' N. LAT., 131° 33.75' W. LONG., AND TO THE SOUTH BY A LINE FROM INDIAN POINT AT 55° 36.87' N. LAT., 131° 42.07' W. LONG., TO MIKE POINT AT 55° 37.25' N. LAT., 131° 52.74' W. LONG.; A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(C) IN THE WATERS OF THE HERRING BAY SPORTFISH TERMINAL HARVEST AREA, WHICH INCLUDES THE WATERS OF NICHOLS PASS NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF DRIEST POINT, REVILLAGIGEDO CHANNEL NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF HARBOR POINT, AND TONGASS NARROWS SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE OF THE LEWIS REEF LIGHT; A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH FROM JUNE 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;

(D) IN ALL REMAINING WATERS OF DISTRICT 1 AND 2, AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.200, A RESIDENT KING SALMON BAG LIMIT OF TWO FISH 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH DECEMBER 31.]

(h) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 2.6 and equal to or greater than 2.0, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index of less than or equal to 1.0 and greater than or equal to 0.875, the sport fishery harvest limit will be 20,600 treaty king salmon and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the following management measures:

(1) a resident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, except that from July 1 through August 15 nonresident anglers may not retain king salmon;

(3) from June 16 through December 31, a nonresident total harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by a nonresident from January 1 through June 15 will apply towards the one fish nonresident total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(4) from January 1 through June 15, a nonresident total harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

[(5) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE KING SALMON SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ADJUST THE NONRESIDENT SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SO THAT THERE ARE NO CLOSURES FOR RESIDENTS.]

(i) When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 2.0, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index of less than 0.875, the all gear catch limit will be determined by the Pacific Salmon Commission, and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the provisions specified in (g) and (h) of this section and nonretention periods or other restrictions for resident and nonresident anglers to obtain 20 percent of the harvest reduction from resident anglers and 80 percent from nonresident anglers.

(j) The commissioner may adopt regulations that establish reporting requirements necessary to obtain the information required to implement the management plan under this section.

(k) The commissioner may, by emergency order, establish that the nonresident harvest and annual limits for king salmon under this section do not apply in a hatchery terminal harvest area.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan (SEAKKSMP; 5 AAC 47.055) triggers sport fishery management actions to maintain harvest within the sport fishery harvest limit allocation. In August 2018, the Pacific Salmon Commission reached agreement to renew various fishery arrangements under the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) for the next ten years (2019-2028). Under the current PST, seven harvest limit tiers replaced the harvest limit ranges and established annual payback provisions when the all gear harvest ceiling is exceeded by Alaskan fisheries. Since the renewed 2019-2028 PST agreement reduced the harvest limit at specified abundance indices, managing the sport fishery under the then current plan would have likely caused the sport fishery to exceed its allocation more often and by a greater amount.

Recognizing that the sport fishery would exceed its allocation more often and by a greater amount without modification of the plan, the department submitted an agenda change request during the 2018/2019 Alaska Board of Fisheries cycle, which the board accepted and took up as Proposal 176 at the January 2019 Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Finfish meeting. Proposal 176 provided a draft plan with suggested management provisions to keep the sport fishery within its allocation. Understanding that it would be best to address the plan during the 2021 Southeast Alaska board meeting but that immediate action was needed, the board modified three sections of the plan that would most likely cover the anticipated abundance indices occurring in 2019 and 2020 and adopted the proposal as amended. The newly adopted management provisions accounted for the conservative management actions being implemented in inside waters to protect Alaska wild king salmon stocks and the necessity for the sport fishery to stay within its allocation given the annual payback provisions under the new treaty provisions. This proposal adds draft management measures for these three sections of the plan needed to keep the sport fishery within its allocation if no conservative management measures are needed to protect wild king salmon and to clarify the board's intent to manage the sport fishery in season to stay within its allocation at all abundance levels. Additionally this proposal consolidates management provisions that direct the department to establish a resident bag limit of two king salmon in areas closed for conservation of wild Alaska king salmon once they are reopened and clarifies provisions instructing the department to restrict nonresidents prior to resident anglers. It should be noted under objective (b)(1) the sport fishery is to be managed on average for its allocation but under sections (f), (g), and (h) the department is to use in season management to stay within the sport allocation of the plan.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-161)

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PROPOSAL 83

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. and 5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to manage for an average sport harvest of 20% of the sport/troll allocation with commensurate regulations addressing sport fishery overages in the commercial troll fishery, as follows:)

Restore the mechanics of Southeast Alaska king salmon management to previous practices to achieve an average sport harvest–over time–of 20% of the annual all-gear treaty allocation after subtraction of commercial net allowances.

Remove specified allocations from within sport management tiers, and prescribe bag and annual limits for each tier that will achieve an average sport treaty harvest–over time–of 20% after net subtractions. Recent data analysis by the department shows the following bag and annual limits would work to reach this objective. Other combinations of bag and annual limits could be used to achieve the same outcome.

(c) A resident bag limit of 3 king salmon; a non-resident bag limit of 1 king salmon, with an annual limit of 3 king salmon.
(d) A resident bag limit of 3 king salmon; a non-resident bag limit of 1 king salmon, with an annual limit of 3 king salmon.
(e) A resident bag limit of 2 king salmon; a non-resident bag limit of 1 king salmon, with an annual limit of 3 king salmon.
(f) A resident bag limit of 2 king salmon; a non-resident bag limit of 1 king salmon, with an annual limit of 3 king salmon from January 1 through June 30, and annual limit of 2 king salmon from July 1 through July 31, and an annual limit of 1 king salmon from August 1 through December 31.
(g) A resident bag limit of 1 king salmon; a non-resident bag limit of 1 king salmon, with an annual limit of 3 king salmon from January 1 through June 30, and annual limit of 2 king salmon from July 1 through July 31, and an annual limit of 1 king salmon from August 1 through December 31. If resident anglers forego king harvest due to wild stock closures, a resident bag limit of 2 king salmon in the areas affected by closures for the balance of the year.
(h) A resident bag limit of 1 king salmon; a non-resident bag limit of 1 king salmon, with an annual limit of 3 king salmon from January 1 through June 30, and annual limit of 2 king salmon from July 1 through July 31, and an annual limit of 1 king salmon from August 1 through December 31. If resident anglers forego king harvest due to wild stock closures, a resident bag limit of 2 king salmon in the areas affected by closures for the balance of the year.
(i) Sport limits to be determined by the Commissioner.

These bag and annual limit combinations purposefully result in sport harvest above and below 20% of the combined troll/sport depending on tier. The annual troll/sport combined treaty allocation would be met by adjusting troll harvest up or down as needed to meet annual allocation goals.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Harvest reductions and payback provisions in the 2018 Treaty Annex resulted in a different approach to sport management by the department. The new approach specifies sport allocations by tier instead of aiming for an

average 80/20 allocation split between troll and sport over time and across tiers. The result is insufficient harvest opportunity for the sport fishery during low abundance.

The Board of Fisheries made stopgap modifications to the king management plan for 2019-2020, but revisions are necessary to allow uninterrupted sport fishing for king salmon in salt waters, minimize restrictions on resident anglers, and eliminate in-season sport regulatory changes moving forward.

Sport management in prior plans allowed sport harvest to exceed 20% of the combined troll/sport allocation during low abundance years, and allowed troll to exceed 80% of the combined troll/sport allocation in high abundance years. The result across time was an average troll/sport relationship of 80/20. Though this was the practice for decades, it was not completely spelled out in regulation. This proposal seeks to return troll/sport management back to earlier mechanics and clearly define it in regulation.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Guides Organization (HQ-F20-097)

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PROPOSAL 84

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. and 5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to ensure no closure of the resident king salmon fishery due to allocation concerns, as follows:

This can be accomplished in several ways, as follows:

1. Direct the department to manage the nonresident fishery so it does not prematurely take the king salmon quota.
2. Require daily electronic catch reporting from guides and lodges.
3. Step down the catch limits or days fished by nonresidents after June 15th so that the resident fishery is not prematurely closed by management error in regulating the nonresident fishery. For example, during the last two weeks of June, the nonresident seasonal limit could be reduced to one or two fish instead of three. Alternatively or additionally, a one or two days per week closure could be imposed similar to the way the North Pacific Fishery Management Council regulates guided halibut fishing in some areas. This might slow down the rampant nonresident catch enough to preserve the resident fishery in July, August and September.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan provides that regulatory restrictions on residents be minimized and disruptions to fishing be avoided. This proposal seeks to regulate the resident king salmon fishery so that it never closes for allocation purposes within the sport quota, and regulates the nonresident fishery so that the treaty quota is not fully taken.

PROPOSED BY: Jesse Walker (HQ-F20-041)

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PROPOSAL 85

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. and 5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.
Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to manage for a resident priority by implementing closed periods and reducing bag limits for nonresidents, as follows:

In the Southeast King Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 47.055), include the existing language in subsection (h)(5) in subsections (f) and (g) as well.

The language in (h)(5) is as follows:
"(5) If the department projects that the king salmon sport allocation is going to be exceeded, the department shall, by emergency order, adjust the nonresident seasons and bag limits so that there are no closures for residents."

This language is intended to replace the language in subsections (f)(6) and (g)(4).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The board has protected the resident king salmon fishery in Southeast by providing in the management plan for uninterrupted sport fishing in salt waters for king salmon and minimizing regulatory restrictions on resident anglers (5 AAC 47.055(b)(2) and (3)). The above language will further protect the resident fishery at the lowest abundance indices. The language already exists at the lowest index (section (h)(5)) and needs to be clarified for the next two indices above that level, or could be made to apply to all indices.

The biggest threat to the resident king salmon fishery is if the fast growing nonresident or guided sector catches the entire sport quota in June which would close the resident fishery, a scenario not anticipated when the plan was written. If this proposal is adopted, the only way the resident fishery could close for allocation purposes is because of management error, a rare probability.

PROPOSED BY: Territorial Sportsmen, Inc. (HQ-F20-119)
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PROPOSAL 86
5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan, and 5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.
Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to manage for a resident priority by implementing closed periods and reducing bag limits for nonresidents, as follows:)

5 AAC 47.055
(x) if the department projects that the king salmon sport harvest allocation is going to be exceeded, the department shall, by emergency order, adjust the nonresident seasons and bag limits so that there are no closures for residents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Clarify in this plan that the resident marine sport fishery does not close for allocation purposes, and that the nonresident sport fishery will be managed to achieve that continuity. The Board has protected the resident marine sport fishery in the management plan because that is the only means residents can take king salmon

for food. There are no subsistence king salmon fisheries in Southeast Alaska except for a small section of the Chilkat River near the village of Klukwan. There are no personal use king salmon fisheries in Southeast. All freshwaters are closed to sport fishing for king salmon in this region. Salt water sport fishing is the only means for residents to access the resource. The only threat to the resident fishery is if the nonresident fishery (primarily in outside waters) takes the entire sport quota in June. This would result in closing the resident fishery as well, a scenario that is possible during low abundance years. Residents would be denied the opportunity to catch king salmon in July, August and September because of the excessive nonresident take in June. This was not foreseen when the plan was adopted and needs to be rectified.

At any abundance index, even the lowest one in the plan, there is always enough king salmon available to provide for a resident fishery plus enough left over to support a limited nonresident fishery as well. Nonresidents currently take about 2/3 of the sport quota. There is no need for the resident food fishery to close unless all sport and commercial fisheries are closed for conservation reasons. Residents support the spring conservation closures for our local spawning stocks, but would hate to lose the summer fishery for feeder king salmon due to overfishing by the nonresident sector. The suggested language to achieve these ends is the same as the language already in subsection (h)(5) of the plan.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Hoffman (HQ-F20-113)

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PROPOSAL 87

5 AAC 47.XXX. New section; 5 AAC 29.090. Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries; 5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer troll fishery.

Make numerous changes to management of commercial troll and sport fisheries for king salmon in Southeast Alaska, as follows:

King salmon management in Districts 101 and 102
Required actions:
1) Create a cell phone app for the collection of catch date in real time. Report this weekly! Revise openings and catch limits accordingly. This method of data collection, is virus free, exceeds the accuracy of creel surveys and log books, easily enforceable, and saves money in the long run.

2) Make separate regulatory groups and king salmon quota allocations, for guided fishermen and resident/nonresident unguided anglers. The management of the unguided angler does not need board action at this time as the 30 plus year history of angler-hours has been constant in the amount of about 30,000 hours per year. Although one might want to look at the data for districts 101 and 102 to be sure.

3) Set fixed king salmon quota numbers for the new "guided'' group for districts 101 and 102. The majority of the king salmon resource comes from southeast Alaska rivers and Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) hatchery production. All harvest in areas 101 and 102 can not exceed the combined production of these areas. The need for timely accurate data collection and real time management is paramount!

4) Close corridor areas (move west Behm Cannel line to: Pt Higgins to Camino Pt) to all fisheries during the king salmon migration period (June). THERE SHOULD BE NOT FISHING OF ANY KIND PERIOD! The other species of fin fish will get a rest from the torment of fishing gear.

5) All finfish, especially king salmon, processed for consumption out of the state of Alaska must make an electronic fish ticket landing. The regulation for the commercial fleet should also be used for the lodges, onboard processor etc. This landing information would then be used for the collection of raw fish tax. This board of fish can lead the way in steaming the untaxed resource extractions form the State of Alaska.

6) logarithmic tax individual fish box leaving the area. (Use a similar nonlinear scale if desired.) 50 pound box is over 3 times the annual seafood per capita in the USA. Excessive amounts of fish box export leads to over harvest. Also the quality of large quantities of frozen product in a home freezer diminishes rapidly over time. This poorer quality seafood affects the wholesale market price paid for Alaskan seafood products because the home pack is often given away or sold. The home stored product is inferior to the commercial one leading to misconception of Alaska's product quality. What is the percentage reduction? Who knows. The point is 50# per individual is very generous. Tax any amount over 50 pounds with diligence and abandon.

7) Manage the Mountain point and rock point spring harvest areas (SSRAA hatchery access) with equal time with the newly created "guided" user group. Under the current system there commercial operators get less time than the "guided" fisherman, no parity. The area should be managed by one manager, not two or more. The troll biologist would be the most logical fit. In this unique class it makes more sense to have a species manager to manage these specific areas.

There are probably are additions to this list the would accelerate the goals listed above. A comprehensive approach would be far better than a piecemeal one. We all must be diligent in returning our local king salmon stocks to previous high productive levels . Just making escape does not meet the statute of maximum sustained yield. Since 2003 previous managers and policy has not done a very good job. There has been lots of growth in the tourism industry since 2003 with little positive reaction to prevent the decline in local stocks. We now have the technology ,all we need is willingness from the regulators and cooperation from the users.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Revise king salmon management in districts 101 and 102 to:

1) Return Unik river specifically (and all king producers in districts 101 and 102) to 2003 productivity levels.

2) Return the spring commercial troll fisheries access to SSRAA hatcheries production out side the term animal harvest areas.

3) Increase the yield of King production toward the statute of maximum sustainable yield.

4) Create additional tax revenue for local communities and Sate of Alaska

PROPOSED BY: Charlie Piercy (EF-F20-067)
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PROPOSAL 88

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. and 5 AAC 29.060. Allocation of king salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to manage for a sliding sport allocation between 16 and 24 percent with commensurate commercial troll fishery allocation modification under commercial regulation, as follows:

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan

(a) The commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, the king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and all other necessary management measures based on the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery catch per unit effort (CPUE). The bag and possession limits and other management measures established by the commissioner will remain in effect until January 31 of the following year. If the new Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is not available by **May**[FEBRUARY] 1, the bag and possession limits and other management measures for the remainder of the year will be based on the prior year's Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE, unless superseded by emergency order.

(b) If the department projects that the sport harvest allocation is going to be exceeded, the department shall, by emergency order, close or adjust bag limits to sport fishing by nonresidents to stay within the sport harvest allocation; the department shall close sport fishing by residents only if nonresident angler closures are insufficient to remain within the sport harvest allocation;

(c) [(B)] The objectives of the management plan under this section are to

(1) manage the sport fishery to attain an average harvest of 20 percent of the annual harvest ceiling specified by the Pacific Salmon Commission, after the subtraction of the commercial net allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 from the harvest ceiling;

(2) allow uninterrupted sport fishing in salt waters for king salmon, while not exceeding the sport fishery harvest ceiling;

(3) minimize regulatory restrictions on resident anglers; and

(4) provide stability to the sport fishery by eliminating in season regulatory changes, except those necessary for conservation **and allocation** purposes.

(d) Should Alaska exceed its quota of treaty Chinook the previous year, all allocation calculations will be based on the original CPUE tiers without any pay back provisions incorporated.

(e) when the number of sport/commercial troll (S/CT) treaty king salmon remaining after the net fisheries allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 have been subtracted, is greater than or equal to 345,071 treaty Chinook, [GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 20.5 CPUE)] the sport fishery harvest limit of treaty Chinook will be set at 16% of the S/CT total, and the commissioner may , by emergency order, implement the following management measures.

[(C) WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 20.5, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX GREATER THAN 2.2, THE SPORT FISHERY HARVEST LIMIT WILL BE 69,000 TREATY KING SALMON, AND THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of **one** [TWO] king salmon in May and one king salmon in other months; a nonresident annual limit of **three** [FIVE] king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from October 1 through March 31, a sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(f) when the number of sport/commercial (S/CT) troll treaty king salmon remaining after the net fisheries allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 have been subtracted, is less than 345,071 but greater than or equal to 309,384 treaty Chinook, [LESS THAN 20.5 BUT GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 8.7 CPUE] **the sport fishery harvest limit of treaty chinook will be set at 16% of the S/CT total, and the commissioner may , by emergency order, implement the following management measures .**

[(D)WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 20.5 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 8.7, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 2.2 AND GREATER THAN 1.8, THE SPORT FISHERY HARVEST LIMIT WILL BE 61,900 TREATY KING SALMON, AND THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) a resident bag limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon; a nonresident annual limit of **three** [FOUR] king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from October 1 through March 31, a sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.]

(g) when the number of sport/commercial troll (S/CT) treaty king salmon remaining after the net fisheries allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 have been subtracted, is less than 309,384 but greater than or equal to 246,391 treaty Chinook, [LESS THAN 8.7 BUT GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 6 CPUE] **the sport fishery harvest limit of treaty Chinook will be set at 18% of the S/CT total, and the commissioner may , by emergency order, implement the following management measures:**

[(E) WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 8.7 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 6.0, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.8 AND GREATER THAN 1.5, THE SPORT FISHERY HARVEST LIMIT WILL BE 49,300 TREATY KING SALMON, AND THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) a resident bag limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon; a nonresident annual limit of three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(h) when the number of sport/commercial troll, (S/CT), treaty king salmon remaining after the net fisheries allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 have been subtracted, is less than 246,391 but greater than or equal to 189,393 fish , [LESS THAN 6 AND GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 3.8 CPUE] **the sport fishery harvest limit of treaty Chinook will be set at 20% of the S/CT total, and the commissioner may , by emergency order, implement the following**

management measures for the following conditions, in conjunction with Alaska wild stock conservation measures;

[(F) WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 6.0 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 3.8, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.5 AND GREATER THAN 1.2, THE SPORT FISHERY HARVEST LIMIT WILL BE 37,900 TREATY KING SALMON, AND THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES IN CONJUNCTION WITH WILD STOCK MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) a bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) **A nonresident total harvest limit of two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;**

[(3) FROM JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 7, A NONRESIDENT TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT OF TWO KING SALMON, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH; ANY KING SALMON HARVESTED BY A NONRESIDENT FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JULY 7 WILL APPLY TOWARDS THE TWO FISH TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT;] a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(3)[(4)] from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon;

[(5) FROM JULY 8 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, A NONRESIDENT TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT OF ONE KING SALMON; 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH; ANY KING SALMON HARVESTED BY A NONRESIDENT FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31 WILL APPLY TOWARDS THE ONE FISH TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT; A HARVEST RECORD UNDER 5 AAC 75.006 IS REQUIRED;]

[(6) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY NONRESIDENTS TO STAY WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION; THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY RESIDENTS ONLY IF NONRESIDENT ANGLER CLOSURES ARE INSUFFICIENT TO REMAIN WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION;]

(4) [(7)] in the Haines and Skagway vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Chilkat Inlet north of the ADF&G regulatory marker immediately north of Seduction Point, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 1 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of Section 13-C, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, southeast of a line from Nismeni Point to a point on the Chichagof Island shoreline at 57° 35.59' N. lat., 135° 22.33' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(5)[8] in the Juneau vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Sections 11-A, 11-B and 11-C, District 12. Sections 14-B, 14-C, 15-B, and 15-C, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of Section 11-D, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 1 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(6)[(9)] in the Petersburg Wrangell vicinity:

(A) in the waters of District 8, as described in 5 AAC 47.057(d), and in a portion of District 7, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, in the waters of Eastern Passage west of a line from a point on Wrangell Island at 56° 22.19' N. lat., 132° 11.75' W. long., to a point on the mainland shore at 56° 22.76' N. lat., 132° 10.62' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of District 5 north of a line from Point Baker to a point on the shore of Kuiu Island at 56° 20.80' N. lat., 133° 50.87' W. long., District 6, District 7 excluding the waters of Eastern Passage west of a line from a point on Wrangell Island at 56° 22.19' N. lat., 132° 11.75' W. long., to a point on the mainland shore at 56° 22.76' N. lat., 132° 10.62' W. long., District 9 north of line from Point Ellis to Patterson Point, and District 10, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(7)(10) in the Ketchikan vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Behm Canal and Revillagigedo Channel and the contiguous bays, between a line from Point Eva to Cactus Point, and a line from Lucky Point at 55° 12.62' N. lat., 131° 16.18' W. long., to Middy Point at 55° 10.19' N., 131° 19.60' W. long., to Beaver Point at 55° 05.25' N. lat., 131° 14.57' W. long., and from Point Rosen at 55° 04.74' N lat., 131° 10.87' W. long., to Quadra Point at 55° 05.14' N. lat., 130° 59.07' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from August 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of West Behm Canal and the contiguous bays enclosed to the north by a line from the western entrance of Bailey Bay at 55° 56.04' N. lat., 131° 37.94' W. long., to the northern tip of Hassler Island at 55° 54.28' N. lat., 131° 37.80' W. long., and a line from Fin Point at 55° 51.26' N. lat., 131° 35.42' W. long., to Dress Point at 55° 51.15' N. lat., 131° 33.75' W. long., and to the south by a line from Indian Point at 55° 36.87' N. lat., 131° 42.07' W. long., to Mike Point at 55° 37.25' N. lat., 131°52.74'W. long.; a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from August 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(C) in the waters of the Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area, which includes the waters of Nichols Pass north of the latitude of Driest Point, Revillagigedo Channel north of the latitude of Harbor Point, and Tongass Narrows south of the latitude of the Lewis Reef Light, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(D) in all remaining waters of Districts 1 and 2, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish 28 inches or greater in length from August 15 through December 31.

(i) **when the number of sport/commercial troll, (S/CT), treaty king salmon remaining after the net fisheries allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 have been subtracted, is less than 189,393 but greater than or equal to 129,220 fish,** [IS LESS THAN 3.8 AND EQUAL TO OR

GREATER THAN 2.6 CPUE] **the sport fishery harvest limit of treaty chinook will be set at 22% of the S/CT total, and the commissioner may , by emergency order, implement the following management measures for the following conditions, in conjunction with Alaska wild stock conservation measures;**

[(G) WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 3.8 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2.6, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.2 AND GREATER THAN 1.0, THE SPORT FISHERY HARVEST LIMIT WILL BE 25,800 TREATY KING SALMON AND THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES IN CONJUNCTION WITH WILD STOCK MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) a **resident** bag limit of **two** [ONE] king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) from January 1 through June 30, a nonresident **bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; and a** total harvest limit of **two** [THREE] king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

(3) from July 1 through December 31, a nonresident total harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; any king salmon harvested by the nonresident from January 1 through December 31 will apply toward the one fish total harvest limit; a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

[(4) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY NONRESIDENTS TO STAY WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION; THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY RESIDENTS ONLY IF NONRESIDENT ANGLER CLOSURES ARE INSUFFICIENT TO REMAIN WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION;]

(4)[(5)] in the Haines and Skagway vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Chilkat Inlet north of the ADF&G regulatory marker immediately north of Seduction Point, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 1 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of Section 13-C, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, southeast of a line from Nismeni Point to a point on the Chichagof Island shoreline at 57° 35.59' N. lat., 135° 22.33' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(5)[(6)] in the Juneau vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Sections 11-A, 11-B, and 11-C, District 12, Sections 14-B, 14-C, 15-B, and 15-C, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of Section 11-D, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 1 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(6)[(7)] in the Petersburg Wrangell vicinity:

(A) in the waters of District 8, as described in 5 AAC 47.057(d), and in a portion of District 7, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, in the waters of Eastern Passage west of a line from a point on Wrangell Island at 56°22.19' N. lat., 132° 11.75' W. long., to a point on the mainland shore at 56° 22.76' N. lat., 132° 10.62' W. long., a

resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of District 5 north of line from Point Baker to a point on the shore of Kuiu Island at 56° 20.80' N. lat., 133° 50.87' W. long., District 6, District 7 excluding the waters of Eastern Passage west of a line from a point on Wrangell Island at 56° 22.19' N. lat., 132° 11.75' W. long., to a point on the mainland shore at 56° 22.76' N. lat., 132° 10.62' W. long., District 9 north of a line from Point Ellis to Patterson Point, and District 10, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(7)[(8)] in the Ketchikan vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Behm Canal and Revillagigedo Channel and the contiguous bays, between a line from Point Eva to Cactus Point, and a line from Lucky Point at 55° 12.62' N. lat., 131° 16.18' W. long., to Middy Point at 55° 10.19' N., 131° 19.60' W. long., to Beaver Point at 55° 05.25' N. lat., 131° 14.57' W. long., and from Point Rosen at 55° 04.74' N lat., 131° 10.87' W. long., to Quadra Point at 55° 05.14' N. lat., 130° 59.07' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from August 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of West Behm Canal and the contiguous bays enclosed to the north by a line from the western entrance of Bailey Bay at 55° 56.04' N. lat., 131° 37.94' W. long., to the northern tip of Hassler Island at 55° 54.28' N. lat., 131° 37. 80' W. long., and a line from Fin Point at 55° 51.26' N. lat., 131° 35.42' W. long., to Dress Point at 55° 51.15' N. lat., 131° 33.75' W. long., and to the south by a line from Indian Point at 55° 36.87' N. lat., 131° 42.07' W. long., to Mike Point at 55° 37.25' N. lat., 131° 52.74' W. long.; a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from August 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(C) in the waters of the Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area, which includes the waters of Nichols Pass north of the latitude of Driest Point, Revillagigedo Channel north of the latitude of Harbor Point, and Tongass Narrows south of the latitude of the Lewis Reef Light; a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(D) in all remaining waters of District 1 and 2, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish 28 inches or greater in length from August 15 through December 31.

(j) when the number of sport/commercial troll, (S/CT), treaty king salmon remaining after the net fisheries allocation specified in 5 AAC 29.060 have been subtracted, is less than 129,220 but greater than or equal to 102,781 fish , [IS LESS THAN 2.6 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2 CPUE] **the sport fishery harvest limit of treaty Chinook will be set at 24% of the S/CT total, and the commissioner may , by emergency order, implement the following management measures for the following conditions, in conjunction with Alaska wild stock conservation measures;**

[(H) WHEN THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA WINTER TROLL FISHERY CPUE IS LESS THAN 2.6 AND EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 2.0, WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX OF LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 1.0 AND GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 0.875, THE SPORT FISHERY HARVEST LIMIT WILL BE 20,600

TREATY KING SALMON AND THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES:]

(1) a resident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) a nonresident bag limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length [EXCEPT THAT FROM JULY 1 THROUGH AUGUST 15 NONRESIDENT ANGLERS MAY NOT RETAIN KING SALMON;]

(3) a nonresident total harvest limit of one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

[(3) FROM JUNE 16 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, A NONRESIDENT TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT OF ONE KING SALMON, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH; ANY KING SALMON HARVESTED BY A NONRESIDENT FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 15 WILL APPLY TOWARDS THE ONE FISH TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT;] a harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required;

[(4) FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JUNE 15, A NONRESIDENT TOTAL HARVEST LIMIT OF TWO KING SALMON, 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH; A HARVEST RECORD UNDER 5 AAC 75.006 IS REQUIRED;]

[(5) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE KING SALMON SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ADJUST THE NONRESIDENT SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS SO THAT THERE ARE NO CLOSURES FOR RESIDENTS.]

(4) **in the Haines and Skagway vicinity:**

(A) in the waters of Chilkat Inlet north of the ADF&G regulatory marker immediately north of Seduction Point, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 1 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of Section 13-C, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, southeast of a line from Nismeni Point to a point on the Chichagof Island shoreline at 57° 35.59' N. lat., 135° 22.33' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(5) in the Juneau vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Sections 11-A, 11-B, and 11-C, District 12, Sections 14-B, 14-C, 15-B, and 15-C, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of Section 11-D, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 1 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(6) in the Petersburg Wrangell vicinity:

(A) in the waters of District 8, as described in 5 AAC 47.057(d), and in a portion of District 7, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, in the waters of Eastern Passage west of a line from a point on Wrangell Island at 56°22.19' N. lat., 132° 11.75' W. long., to a point on the mainland shore at 56° 22.76' N. lat., 132° 10.62' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from July 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of District 5 north of line from Point Baker to a point on the shore of Kuiu Island at 56° 20.80' N. lat., 133° 50.87' W. long., District 6, District 7 excluding the waters of Eastern Passage west of a line from a point on Wrangell Island at 56° 22.19' N. lat., 132° 11.75' W. long., to a point on the

mainland shore at 56° 22.76' N. lat., 132° 10.62' W. long., District 9 north of a line from Point Ellis to Patterson Point, and District 10, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(7) in the Ketchikan vicinity:

(A) in the waters of Behm Canal and Revillagigedo Channel and the contiguous bays, between a line from Point Eva to Cactus Point, and a line from Lucky Point at 55° 12.62' N. lat., 131° 16.18' W. long., to Middy Point at 55° 10.19' N., 131° 19.60' W. long., to Beaver Point at 55° 05.25' N. lat., 131° 14.57' W. long., and from Point Rosen at 55° 04.74' N lat., 131° 10.87' W. long., to Quadra Point at 55° 05.14' N. lat., 130° 59.07' W. long., a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from August 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(B) in the waters of West Behm Canal and the contiguous bays enclosed to the north by a line from the western entrance of Bailey Bay at 55° 56.04' N. lat., 131° 37.94' W. long., to the northern tip of Hassler Island at 55° 54.28' N. lat., 131° 37. 80' W. long., and a line from Fin Point at 55° 51.26' N. lat., 131° 35.42' W. long., to Dress Point at 55° 51.15' N. lat., 131° 33.75' W. long., and to the south by a line from Indian Point at 55° 36.87' N. lat., 131° 42.07' W. long., to Mike Point at 55° 37.25' N. lat., 131° 52.74' W. long.; a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from August 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(C)in the waters of the Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area, which includes the waters of Nichols Pass north of the latitude of Driest Point, Revillagigedo Channel north of the latitude of Harbor Point, and Tongass Narrows south of the latitude of the Lewis Reef Light; a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish from June 15 through December 31, 28 inches or greater in length;

(D) in all remaining waters of District 1 and 2, as described in 5 AAC 33.200, a resident king salmon bag limit of two fish 28 inches or greater in length from August 15 through December 31.

[(5) IF THE DEPARTMENT PROJECTS THAT THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION IS GOING TO BE EXCEEDED, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY NONRESIDENTS TO STAY WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION; THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE SPORT FISHING BY RESIDENTS ONLY IF NONRESIDENT ANGLER CLOSURES ARE INSUFFICIENT TO REMAIN WITHIN THE SPORT HARVEST ALLOCATION;]

(k)[(i)] When the Southeast Alaska winter troll fishery CPUE is less than 2.0, which is equivalent to a king salmon abundance index of less than 0.875, the all gear catch limit will be determined by the Pacific Salmon Commission, and the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement the provisions specified in **(b)**[(G) AND (H)] of this section and non-retention periods or other restrictions for resident and nonresident anglers to obtain 20 percent of the harvest reduction from resident anglers and 80 percent from nonresident anglers.

(l)[(J)] The commissioner may adopt regulations that establish reporting requirements necessary to obtain the information required to implement the management plan under this section.

(m) [(k)] The commissioner may, by emergency order, establish that the nonresident harvest and annual limits for king salmon under this section do not apply in a hatchery terminal harvest area.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The 2019 Pacific Salmon Treaty agreement resulted a different abundance system used to determine Alaska's quota share. The new CPUE tier system leaves the sport fishery short of the treaty fish it needs on the lower tiers at the current 20% after the net fisheries have been subtracted. Yet on the upper tiers, a 20% allocation is too many treaty fish and even with excessive bag limits can be beyond the sport fishery's ability to harvest it. This proposal is a sliding scale allocation plan that should solve both of these issues. On low abundance years the troll fleet will harvest less than their current 80% allocation, but on high abundance years, make up for that loss, by harvesting more than the current 80%.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Merritt (HQ-F20-116)

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PROPOSAL 89

5 AAC 29.115. Registration; 5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations; 5 AAC 29.125. Vessel identification.

Allow the use of two additional fishing lines during periods of king salmon non-retention in all of the Southeast-Yakutat area if there is more than one CFEC power troll permit holder on board the vessel, as follows:

5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations. (a) Salmon may be taken by hand troll gear and power troll gear only in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area.

(b) The maximum number of trolling lines that may be operated from a salmon troll vessel is as follows:

from a power troll vessel:

(A) no more than six lines may be operated in the exclusive economic zone north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Cape Spencer;

(B) except as provided in (A) **and (D)** of this paragraph, no more than four lines;

(C) from each power troll gurdy: only one line to which multiple leaders and hooks may be attached; a person may not use hand troll gurdies or fishing rods to take salmon commercially on board a registered power troll vessel;

(D) A CFEC permit holder who holds two Statewide Power Troll permits may operate no more than six lines in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area during periods of chinook non-retention.

…

I. (A) two Statewide power troll CFEC permit holders may concurrently fish from the same vessel and jointly operate an aggregate of no more than six lines under this section during periods of chinook non-retention.

5 AAC 29.115. Registration. (a) The owner or operator of a vessel that is to be used to take salmon with hand or power troll gear shall register that vessel before engaging in salmon trolling during a

calendar year. The registration is valid for the entire calendar year in which a vessel is registered. (b) A person may not register a salmon troll fishing vessel simultaneously as a salmon hand troll vessel and power troll vessel. A person may change a salmon troll vessel's registration from one troll gear type to the other troll gear type during the open season if a written request is submitted to, and validated, by the department.
(c) Before operating power troll gear jointly under 5AAC 29.120(b)(D), permit holders shall register with the department indicating the intent to jointly operate gear. Joint operation registration remains in effect until the participating permit holders unregister with the department.

5 AAC 29.125. Vessel identification. (a) In addition to the requirements of 5 AAC 39.119, a registered salmon hand troll vessel owner shall display the letters HT in block letters on both sides of the vessel's hull or cabin. The letters must be in a color that contrasts with the color of the background and be at least eight inches high, at least one-half inch wide, and be plainly visible and unobscured at all times. The letters must be displayed at all times until the end of the calendar year for which the vessel is registered for a hand troll permit, unless that registration is changed to power troll gear under 5 AAC 29.115(b).
(b) Vessels registered under 5AAC 29.115(c) or operating 6 lines under 5AAC 29.120 (D) shall display the letters DR under provisions of (a) in this section.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? At present, power trollers are allowed to fish six lines only when fishing north of Cape Spencer and outside of three miles, and may fish no more than four lines at all other times.

I am asking that the Board allow the use of not more than six lines in the entire Southeast Alaska/Yakutat region during periods of chinook non-retention for any permit holder who either a.) possesses two power troll (S15B) permits or b.) enters into a dual permit agreement as outlined in this proposal. This would allow for individual trollers to increase their efficiency while targeting coho and chum salmon, while maintaining or reducing gear in the water fleet wide.

PROPOSED BY: Matt Lawrie (EF-F20-065)
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PROPOSAL 90
5 AAC 29.090. Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries.
Change trigger to from an annual abundance index (AI) number to a District 13 early-winter power troll CPUE tier, as follows:

I propose that 5 AAC 29.090 Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries be modified as follows:

5 AAC 29.090 Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries

...(d)(3) if the [PRESEASON KING SALMON ABUNDANCE INDEX DETERMINED BY THE CHINOOK TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF THE PACIFIC SALMON COMMISSION IS AT LEAST 1.15] **Stat Week 41-48 District 113 early winter king salmon power troll CPUE is**

within or above tier 3 and the amount of the winter troll fishery guideline harvest level remaining on May 1 is 10,000 or more king salmon, apply the following provisions:

(A)...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The previous agreement between the United States and Canada under the Pacific Salmon Treaty expired in 2018. The old agreement used a computer-generated Abundance Index (AI) method to calculate Alaska's Chinook quota. The AI method was replaced with a tiered system that uses the Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CPUE) of the early winter (early October through the end of November) Chinook troll fishery in District 113 instead. District 113 is a geographically large and typically productive district on the outer coast. Out of all of the districts with early winter fisheries in the region, the CPUE in District 113 was found to be the most accurate predictor of Chinook abundance the following summer.

The harvest in the winter troll fishery is limited by a Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) of 45,000 Treaty Chinook. In years when the regional winter harvest falls short of this amount by 10,000 or more king salmon, the GHLs in the spring fisheries are typically increased in an attempt to ensure that at least some of the unused winter GHL is caught during the higher-priced spring season, rather than getting transferred directly to the summer season. Under previous regulations this was only to occur when the computer-modeled Abundance Index was 1.15 or higher. A Chinook abundance level that merited an AI of 1.15 under the old system would be expected to fall within Tier 3 (which includes CPUEs in the range of 2.6-3.8 kings per boat-day) under the new Treaty Agreement. This housekeeping proposal just updates the language regarding the conditions that trigger additions to spring GHLs to reflect the change from the AI method of determining the Alaska quota to the CPUE tier method.

PROPOSED BY: Tad Fujioka (EF-F20-073)

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PROPOSAL 91

5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer salmon troll fishery.

Reallocate the annual troll harvest allocation between the winter, spring and summer troll fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 29.100. Management of the summer salmon troll fishery

(c) The department shall manage the summer king salmon troll fishery as follows:

(1) the department shall manage the summer king salmon troll fishery (A) to take [70 PERCENT OF THE REMAINING TROLL KING SALMON HARVEST ALLOCATION, CALCULATED AS THE ANNUAL TROLL HARVEST ALLOCATION MINUS THE WINTER AND SPRING TROLL HARVESTS OF TREATY KING SALMON, IN AN INITIAL OPENING BEGINNING JULY 1;]

(i) 100% of the remaining troll king salmon harvest allocation, calculated as the annual troll harvest allocation minus the winter and spring troll harvest of the treaty king salmon, in an initial opening beginning July 1, if the remaining number of Chinook available for harvest totals 85,000 fish or less.

(ii) 60% of the remaining troll king salmon harvest allocation, calculated as the annual troll harvest allocation minus the winter and spring troll harvest of the treaty king salmon, in an initial opening beginning July 1, if the remaining number of Chinook available for harvest is between 85,001 and 150,000 fish

(iii) 70% of the remaining troll king salmon harvest allocation, calculated as the annual troll harvest allocation minus the winter and spring troll harvest of the treaty king salmon, in an initial opening beginning July 1, if the remaining number of Chinook available for harvest is between 150,001 and 200,000 fish.

(iv) 80% of the remaining troll king salmon harvest allocation, calculated as the annual troll harvest allocation minus the winter and spring troll harvest of the treaty king salmon, in an initial opening beginning July 1, if the remaining number of Chinook available for harvest is greater than 200,000 fish.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the 2019 treaty agreement where Alaska is forced to pay back any treaty Chinook it overharvests, it is very important to have the best management strategy possible. Managing in season instead of just giving a set number of days is the best way to avoid over harvesting. On a set amount of days, the manager can only estimate the catch rate and if off significantly, Alaska will be over its treaty quota. It would be much safer to have enough fish to absorb the first day bonanza and still allow the department to manage in season. With August quota's less than 35,000 fish managing in season is difficult.

By having too many fish left to harvest in the second king opening has its problems too. There is a risk of not being able to catch it before the season ends. When the troll fleet has had more than 60,000 fish to harvest in August, it has resulted in king seasons lasting up to 28 days just to catch it. In some cases, it was not caught and left on the treaty table.

When the troll fleet has had 2 day king openings it costs trollers money. Cohos are at a peak in August. With a fair start closure combined with days waiting to offload a handful of kings, it doesn't pencil out due to lost coho fishing time.

It strains the processing infrastructure as well. The fleet was just iced for the king opening and some ice machines haven't recovered from that, yet now are forced to ice the entire fleet again. Processing a small surge of kings amidst the coho fishery can be costly as well.

If less than 35,000 fish were to be left for the August opening it would be smarter to have harvested them in the July opening. A single opening in July of 85,000 fish is easier for the department to manage and the fleet would be better off financially.

So, this proposal is an attempt to find a balance between having too few or too many Chinook to harvest in the August king opening. Hopefully it results in the second king opening being longer than 4 days and less than 15.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Merritt (HQ-F20-117)
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PROPOSAL 92

5 AAC 29.140. Size limits, possession, and landing requirements.

Allow retention of king salmon greater than 26 inches in hatchery terminal harvest areas by commercial trollers, as follows:

Commercial trollers fishing in any open state established hatchery terminal area can keep king salmon 26" or longer.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Commercial trollers are not allowed to keep king salmon that are under 28" that are caught in terminal hatchery areas, and yet gillnetters and seiners fishing in the same water at the same time can. A 27" king salmon swimming around in any terminal area where nets are being fished is going to be caught. How can it be fair that a troller has to throw this 27" king salmon overboard and yet 50 yards away is a gillnet or a seine that will catch it and that fisher has to sell it!??! In the last three years I have power trolled in Anita Bay, Neets Bay, and Carol Inlet. In all three locations the net fishermen have been fishing at the same time and I have to throw back a 27", 7 lb king that is probably a jack, and the nets get to keep the same fish and sell it. This is totally unfair and ridiculous! Most of these sub legal fish (for a troller) are colored up and match the skin color of the bigger, legal ones that I'm catching. This leads me to believe they are either jacks or early returning hatchery fish that are going to stay in the area until they are caught or die. Since trollers are still below their hatchery allocation share of hatchery fish, sited in the Southeast Allocation Plan (5 AAC 33.364), the current regs, this further skews the ratio of salmon sharing between trollers and nets. (Incidentally, about 6 years ago commercial trailers could legally keep king salmon under 28" in Anita Bay while fishing in the terminal area.)

PROPOSED BY: Brian Merritt (HQ-F20-010)
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PROPOSAL 93

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* by reducing the maximum nonresident annual limit to three king salmon, as follows:

The annual harvest of king salmon in the Southeast & Yakutat finfish management area by non-resident sport fisherman shall be no more than three (3) fish.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? King salmon considered a highly valuable resource to the tribal members of Alaska, however these fish adversity year after year with low escapement in many of our rivers. It is imperative to have in writing to prioritize tribal members to have access on this valuable resource by setting a cap on annual harvest of king salmon by nonresident sports fisherman regardless of the status of the fishery. The Board of Fish and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game can still set a limit lower than the established cap by emergency order, but the harvest shall not exceed the cap.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Indian Community (HQ-F20-047)
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PROPOSAL 94

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to manage for a resident priority by implementing specific closed periods and reducing annual limits for nonresidents, as follows:

The proposal is to close nonresident fishing two days per week beginning June 16 except in hatchery special harvest areas. Also the nonresident seasonal limit should be reduced from three fish to two fish or one fish beginning June 16, except in hatchery special harvest areas.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? For thirty years the Board has provided a resident priority in this management plan because there is no other available means for residents to access king salmon. That priority is in danger now because of two things - the fishing power of the nonresident guided fleet, primarily in outside waters near Sitka, Prince of Wales Island and Elfin Cove/Cross Sound, and because king salmon abundance is currently low under the U.S. - Canada treaty provisions.

The department has stated they cannot assess what the king salmon catch is in-season and does not know the June guided catch totals until August. This is unacceptable. A sharp uptick in June nonresident catch will cause the quota to be taken prematurely and all fishing closed, including to residents. This is inconsistent with the management plan. The solution is to get better catch data faster, such as by electronic reporting. Until that happens the nonresident catch should be slowed considerably the last half of June so that the quota is never exceeded and the resident fishery continues uninterrupted.

This will help alleviate the rapidly growing catching power of the guided sport sector, (which already takes 2/3 or more of the available treaty fish quota), and it will protect the resident fishery so that it won't close in the summer due to the sport allocation being achieved.

PROPOSED BY: Ralph Fenner (HQ-F20-075)
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PROPOSAL 95

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to provide for inseason liberalization of management measures when the sport fish allocation will not be met, as follows:

In years when in season monitoring of the sport catch of Chinook indicates that the current bag limits will likely not result in full utilization of the Sport Allocation, the Department shall make necessary changes to bag limits to better enable the full utilization of the Chinook resource. The Department will also analyze the harvest capability of resident versus non-resident anglers in determining how to distribute any bag limit changes between the two groups. Additionally, the

Department will be selective in not raising bag limits in areas where native Chinook stocks of concern may be harvested excessively.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The new treaty system adopted by the Board of Fish in 2018 for allocating Chinook Salmon to resident and non-resident anglers in Southeast Alaska utilizes a tier system to establish bag limits that is based on the Catch Per Unit of Effort (CPUE) results from the Winter Commercial Troll Fishery. In some years, this tier system may not allow sport anglers to harvest their full 20% of the Hook and Line Gear Total Allowable Catch (TAC). We on the Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee would like the Board of Fish to provide direction/authority to the department so that, in such years, they may make "In Season Management" decisions to allow full utilization of the 20% of the TAC allocated to Sport Anglers.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-084)
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Enhancement and Special Harvest Areas

PROPOSAL 96

5 AAC 33.369. District 1: Herring Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.
Expand waters of Herring Bay Terminal Harvest Area open to commercial troll fishing, as follows:

The waters of Carroll Inlet north of the latitude of the southern tip of California Head should be included in the Herring Bay Troll Terminal Harvest Area. Trollers have no access to SSRAA chinook released in Carroll Inlet after July 1.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The commercial troll fleet should have parity with the sport fishers. The *Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area* in 5 AAC 33.369 (d) defines a more liberal area than my request. The logical and honorable action for the Board of Fish and the Department would be to have one set of boundaries for both harvest groups and modify the area by EO when necessary.

This action is needed because when 5 AAC 33.369 was adopted, SSRAA had no chinook salmon returning to Carroll Inlet.

Commercial trollers will have restricted opportunity for the ability to harvest hatchery produced chinook: No harvest equals no value towards correcting the allocation imbalance.

PROPOSED BY: Charlie Piercy (HQ-F20-011)
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PROPOSAL 97

5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.
Establish waters closed to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet gear but open to commercial troll gear in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area when spring troll areas in District 6 and 8 are closed, as follows:

5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

(b) The commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, fishing seasons and periods to manage the common property fisheries to harvest excess salmon returning to the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area. The Terminal Harvest Area will be opened and closed under this subsection to the harvest of salmon as follows: Closed waters within the THA include:

(1) June 1 through June 30, the waters of the Anita Bay THA North and East of a line from 56°12.90′ N. latitude, 132°24.51′ W. longitude to 56°12.75′ N. latitude, 132°23.50′ W. longitude will be closed to the harvest of salmon by commercial seine and drift gillnet gear;

(b) The closure to commercial seine and drift gillnet gear sited in (1) above will be removed as soon as the troll spring fishery areas of Steamer Point (106-30): and Chichagof Pass (108-10) are reopened.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Since the Stock of Concern conservation plans for the Unuk, Chilkat and King Salmon river have been instated, the trollers have lost several spring fishery areas for the purpose of harvesting Alaska hatchery fish. In addition to these plans, the Stikine and Taku river Chinook runs are in dire straits and these same plans protect these runs as well.

Consequently, the troll spring fishery areas surrounding Anita bay have been closed with no reopening of those areas in the foreseeable future. This means the trollers have lost the main contributor to their access to the SSRAA Chinook released in Anita Bay. The only area left is the Anita Bay terminal area itself.

In the past when proposals of this nature were submitted, the Board of Fisheries response was for the proposer to ask the hatchery association for a change before they would take action. In 2018, following that prodigal, a letter was sent to SSRAA asking for an exclusive zone in the Terminal Area of Anita Bay in which the trollers could fish without net interference. That request was granted to a small extent. In 2019 the same zone specified in this proposal was troll only from June 1, to June 12. It was appreciated and considered a step in the right direction. However, hatchery Chinook for the Anita Bay release site are just starting to show up on June 12 and peak about June 30th. So basically, the politics of the SSRAA board would only allow the trollers this exclusive zone when the fish were not there in force. It was a gift on paper, but in reality, far short of what it should have been.

Having attempted the past Board of Fisheries prodigal in these matters and been dissatisfied, the only recourse is to come to this Board for help and suggest they exercise:

5 AAC 33.364.
(a) If the value of the harvest of enhanced salmon stocks by a gear group listed in (a) of this section is outside of its allocation percentage for three consecutive years, the board will, in its discretion, adjust fisheries within special harvest areas to bring the gear group within its allocation percentage. With the SEAK Chinook runs in poor health and these spring fishery areas for trollers remaining closed, the allocation deficit of the trollers is only going to get worse. The Board of Fisheries needs to adopt proposals like this one to curb that decline.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Merritt (HQ-F20-114)
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PROPOSAL 98
5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.
Change the ratio of drift gillnet to purse seine openings from 2:1 to 1:2 in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

Section (3) (d) (3) [EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN (4) AND (5) OF THIS SUBSECTION,] in establishing emergency order season openings for the purse seine and drift gillnet fisheries, the department shall rotate openings between these gear groups and shall provide for a time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings of **one** [TWO] to **two** [ONE].

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Section (3) (d) (3) and (4) of the regulation pertain to specific fishing years that will sunset. The proposed changes are necessary to address the Enhanced Salmon Allocation Plan 5 AAC 33.364. There no longer is a section (3) (d) (5).

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (HQ-F20-101)
**Note: lead-in language was revised 9/15/2020.*
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PROPOSAL 99
5 AAC 33.387. District 9: Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan.
Establish a gear rotation between purse seine and troll gear in the Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest area, as follows:

(d) The management plan allows for the harvest of hatchery-produced chum salmon by the purse seine, gillnet, and troll fisheries when there are excess fish not being harvested by the hatchery operator. The gear and rotation, if any, shall be **seine fleet- Sunday and Thursday; troll fleet- all other days.** [DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE HATCHERY OPERATOR.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan 5 AAC 33.364, sets allocation ranges for each gear. This action is viewed as working toward achieving those specified ranges.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (HQ-F20-104)
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PROPOSAL 100
5 AAC 33.387. District 9: Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan.
Remove drift gillnet gear from allowed gear to participate in the Southeast Cove THA common property fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 33.387 (d) The management plan allows for the harvest of hatchery-produced chum salmon by the purse seine[, GILLNET,] and troll fisheries when there are excess fish not being harvested by the hatchery operator. The gear and rotations, if any, shall be determined by the commissioner, by emergency order, in consultation with the hatchery operator.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We would like to exclude the commercial gillnet fishery from the Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest area. The gillnet user group has been above the allocative range specified in the Southeastern Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan [5 AAC 33.364] for every period since the 2000-2004 five-year increment.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Native Inter-Tribal Association of Seiners (HQ-F20-008)
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PROPOSAL 101
5 AAC 33.375. District 13: Silver Bay (Medvejie Creek Hatchery) Salmon Management Plan. Modify management plan to further consider potential effect of hatchery-produced salmon on wild-stock salmon, as follows:

5 AAC 33.375. District 13: Silver Bay (Medvejie Creek Hatchery) Salmon Management Plan
The commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, salmon fishing seasons and periods in waters of Silver Bay east of a line from Entry Point Light at 57° 01.58' N. lat., 135° 14.58' W. long., to Silver Point at 57° 00.82' N. lat., 135° 18.10' W. long., to ensure **fish stocks in the state shall be managed consistent with sustained yield of wild fish stocks,[1] to ensure management to achieve** chum salmon broodstock escapement to the Medvejie Creek Hatchery **shall be consistent with sustained yield of wild fish stocks[2]** and to allow for the common property fisheries to harvest excess salmon, including king salmon by troll gear before July 31
(a) **Medvejie Creek Hatchery has legislative responsibility to incorporate the following PNP Hatchery Act mandated obligations:**
(1) hatchery programs shall be operated without adversely affecting natural stocks of fish in the state[4]
(2) hatchery programs shall be operated under a policy of management which allows reasonable segregation of returning hatchery-reared salmon from naturally occurring stocks;[5]
(3) Hatchery program remote release sites shall be located in an area where a reasonable segregation from natural stocks occurs [6]
(4)hatchery operations and specifications must be consistent with the comprehensive regional salmon plan approved under AS 16.10.375[7]
(5) SE CSP's. concern for wild stocks is triggered when hatchery salmon straying rates exceed 2%. Any higher rates must be validated to not jeopardize wild populations by the department,[8]
(6) the department and board shall define and validate straying proportions "based on the best available scientific information" to sustain productivity, without adversely affecting, or jeopardizing sustained yield of wild naturally occurring salmon[9] [10]
(7) validated proportions of benign hatchery salmon straying are defined as chinook xxx%; sockeye xxx%; coho xxx%; chum xxx%, pink xxx%;

(8) Until the the department and board have a policy of management that justifies and validates this reasonable segregation, of straying proportions without jeopardizing wild stock sustained yield,[1] the CSP and genetics policy 2% rule will be adhered to within wild naturally occurring streams[11]
(9) when proportions of hatchery salmon straying exceed validated percentages, jeopardizing sustained yield of wild fish stocks, production shall be ramped down the following spring, from each Remote Release Site, hatchery or THA source incrementally until adverse affects cease[12],[13]

[1] AS 16.05.730 (a) Management of Wild and enhanced Stocks of Fish
[2] AS 16.05.730 (b) Management of Wild and enhanced Stocks of Fish
[3] AS 16.05.730 Management of Wild and Enhanced Stocks of Fish.
[4] PNP Hatchery Act legislative intent
[5] PNP Hatchery Act legislative intent
[6] AS 16.10.420. (10) Conditions of a Hatchery Permit
[7] AS 16.10.480 (f) Contracts for the Operation of State Hatcheries
[8] 5 AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(1) (B),(D); (2)(D); (3)(B),(F)
[9] 5AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(1) (B),(D), (2)(D); (3)(B),(F)
[10] PNP Hatchery Act legislative intent
[11] 5AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(1) (B),(D); (2)(D); (3)(B)(F)
[12] Intent of PNP Hatchery Act
[13] Article VIII Section 3 and 4. Natural Resources, Common Use; Sustained Yield. Alaska Constitution

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The issue is unreasonable temporal integration of artificially propagated late run hatchery stock chums, being tolerated to breed with early run spawning wild natural chum populations and dig up their redds in West Crawfish NE Arm, Whale Bay and surrounding anadromous waters. This remaining pristine quadrant of SEAK is getting hammered by stray hatchery fish. This area is a wilderness area.

West Crawfish wild summer chum salmon is 1 of 9 escapement indicator stocks used by the department for escapement. How reliable is this escapement now? This system accounts for an average 24% of the total Northern Southeast subregion index making it the areas second largest natural wild chum run. It is a significant stock. It is the public trust.

With the Relative Reproductive Success RRS found to be so low in hatchery pinks, chinook, coho and sockeye we can only hope and pray this affliction of reduced productivity and fitness in hatchery chums is not the same...as the damage is tolerated to continue in sustained yield of wild salmon.

This West Crawfish wild summer run timing chum population was sampled as part of the Alaska Hatchery Straying Research Program (AHRP) prior to 2015 and found very few hatchery fish straying into the system, below 2% making it genetically relatively pristine.

But not any more…

As stated by ADFG staff, Otolith sampling performed at peak run timing in late August to early September, became bloated with stray fall run timing hatchery chums documented at 80.5% in 2018 and 53% in 2019 contaminating this wild "naturally occurring" salmon. This is unacceptable.

Temporal separation does not exist in West Crawfish NE ARM. Staff written comments submitted as RC 2 in the October 2019 work session made this lack of temporal separation perfectly clear: "The peak of the wild summer chum run is probably late august to early September" documented when high proportions of straying occurred. "The latest chum salmon survey data for the West Crawfish NE Head Index stream is September 7, 2006, and included 400 chum salmon at the mouth, 100 in the intertidal, 2780 live in the creek, and 5400 carcasses."

"In most other late August survey counts, live chum, still outnumber dead more often than not " However, these accurate submitted comments were overridden when Board members' questions were given inaccurate verbal answers at the work session that stated: "…we spoke to temporal separation between these runs… There's a 3 to 4…about 3 weeks difference in peak run timing in the stock in West Crawfish and the stock used for this return… "there aren't the wild stocks in there because they've already perished or ah ah moved on...." Already perished and moved on???

Having three thousand live wild fish in the river with hundreds still down at the mouth when these hatchery strays flood in on top of them by the thousands is about as far from temporal separation as you can get. And the wild redds will be dug up and replaced with hatchery maladapted genetics. This is flat wrong. When a board member asked "Is there a defined acceptable or unacceptable rate of straying under the hatchery permit?"

The answer was: "pause, yeh, There is not. um,… stray proportions or stray rates are um… stock and species specific and…, there is a tremendous amount of work out there trying to figure those things out but um a lot of it depends on what stock you're using."

How is the board going to be able to comprehensively deliberate when faulty obscure flip flopping answers are given to critically important questions? This is very distressing as a member of the public to witness this diversion from truth to the regulatory body of the State of Alaska.

Since these straying episodes confound the Alaska Hatchery Research Program results seriously negatively skewing them. How is this going to be reconciled? Will genetic sampling be taken to see what damage has or is occurring?

Crawfish received a band aid approach by amending Section 5 AAC 29.112 - Management of chum salmon troll fishery to intercept these hatchery fish before they get to the spawning grounds. This does not address jeopardizing natural stocks and masks catching wild fish in the mixed stock fisheries as they migrate into these wild systems. It also does not address the undermining of ADFG determination that when bullied at RPT meetings to move into full production ADFG required the understanding that the program would ramp down if problems were discovered. So...Problems were discovered, nothing is ramped down and this determination was ignored.

The issue is there is no Policy of Management, that comprehensively addresses a defined acceptable or unacceptable rate of straying under the hatchery permit as Board Member Van Dort wisely asked for, without consulting comprehensive salmon plans and with RPT meetings dominated by industry without any biological basis it is no wonder that the poorly selected remote release site was allowed in Crawfish Inlet.

There appears to be a grave disregard for the ADFG determination and this discrepancy needs repair by PARS coming to the BOF to amend by regulation as the Statutes designed. Please fix the straying disaster we have in Alaska by creating the mandated Policy of Management that addresses reasonable segregation and temporal separation keeping hatchery fish away from wild fish spawning in their habitats.

PROPOSED BY: Pioneer Alaskan Fisheries Inc. (EF-F20-143)
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PROPOSAL 102
5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.
Change the ratio of drift gillnet to purse seine openings from 2:1 to 1:2 in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

(1) (B) [EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN (C) AND (D) OF THIS PARAGRAPH,] the time ratio for gillnet to seine openings is **one** [TWO] to **two** [ONE]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Section (1) (B), (C), and (D) of the regulation pertain to specific fishing years that will sunset. The proposed changes are necessary to address the Enhanced Salmon Allocation Plan 5 AAC 33.364.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (HQ-F20-102)
**Note: lead-in language was revised 9/15/2020.*
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PROPOSAL 103
5 AAC 33.363. Management guidelines for allocating Southeast Alaska pink, chum, and sockeye salmon between commercial net fisheries.
Modify net gear allocation guidelines to further consider potential effect of hatchery-produced salmon on wild-stock salmon and wild-stock salmon management, as follows:

5 AAC 33.363. Management guidelines for allocating.
(a) Present management of state-financed hatchery and enhanced stocks represents the collective biological, social, **statutory**[1] and economic factors which have been applied over time and have resulted in current regulations.
(b) Similarly, present management of wild stocks represents the collective biological, social, **statutory** and economic factors which have been applied over time and have resulted in current regulations.

(c) As a general matter, the harvest of fish stocks **in the state shall be managed consistent with sustained yield of wild fish stocks.,**[2] **and** will be managed primarily for the benefit of the user groups within the district to which those stocks are bound. The board recognizes that biological, social, **statutory,** and economic factors and the current regulatory structure may result in the need to harvest such stocks outside the district for which they are bound.
(f) As a general proposition and **under statutory law**, private nonprofit hatchery stocks supported by fishermen assessments will be managed to
(1) maximize harvest in the common property fisheries consistent with wild stock conservation concerns and the facility's management plan; and
(2) give primary emphasis to the facility's plan for allocation within the common property fisheries within the special harvest area **and shall incorporate the following PNP Hatchery Act mandated obligations:**
(1) fish stocks in the state shall be managed consistent with sustained yield of wild fish stocks[3]
(2) hatchery programs shall be operated without adversely affecting natural stocks of fish in the state[4]
(3) hatchery programs shall be operated under a policy of management which allows reasonable segregation of returning hatchery-reared salmon from naturally occurring stocks;[5]
(4) Hatchery program remote release sites shall be located in an area where a reasonable segregation from natural stocks occurs [6]
(5) hatchery operations and specifications must be consistent with the comprehensive regional salmon plan approved under AS 16.10.375[7]
(6) SE CSP's. concern for wild stocks is triggered when hatchery salmon straying rates exceed 2%. Any higher rates must be validated to not jeopardize wild populations by the department,[8]
(7) the department and board shall define and validate hatchery straying proportions "based on the best available scientific information" to sustain productivity, without adversely affecting, or jeopardizing sustained yield of wild naturally occurring salmon[9] [10]
(8) validated proportions of benign hatchery salmon straying are defined as chinook xxx%; sockeye xxx%; coho xxx%; chum xxx%, pink xxx%;
(9) Until the department and board have a policy of management that justifies and validates this reasonable segregation, of straying proportions without jeopardizing wild stock sustained yield,[1] **the CSP and genetics policy 2% trigger rule will be adhered to within wild naturally occurring streams**[11] [12] [13]
(10) when proportions of hatchery salmon straying exceed validated percentages, jeopardizing sustained yield of wild fish stocks, hatchery production shall be ramped down the following spring, from each Remote Release Site, hatchery or THA source incrementally until adverse affects cease[14]**,**[15]

[1] 5AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(3)(F)
[2] AS 16.05.730 (a) Management of Wild and enhanced Stocks of Fish
[3] AS 16.05.730 Management of Wild and Enhanced Stocks of Fish.
[4] PNP Hatchery Act legislative intent
[5] PNP Hatchery Act legislative intent
[6] AS 16.10.420. (10) Conditions of a Hatchery Permit

[7] AS 16.10.480 (f) Contracts for the Operation of State Hatcheries
[8] 5 AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(1) (B),(D); (2)(D); (3)(B),(F)
[9] 5AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(1) (B),(D), (2)(D); (3)(B),(F)
[10] PNP Hatchery Act legislative intent
[11] 5AAC 39.222 Policy For The Management Of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries (c)(1) (B),(D); (2)(D); (3)(B)(F)
[12] SE CSP Phase III
[13] Genetics Policy
[14] Intent of PNP Hatchery Act
[15] Article VIII Section3 and 4. Natural Resources, Common Use; Sustained Yield. Alaska Constitution

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Presently hatchery operations are not in compliance with mandates.

"Effective fishery management outcomes should be consistent with regulations, regulations should be consistent with statutes, implementation can effectively carry out the purpose… of objectives, strategies, guiding principles, and policies established in harvest management plans. 5 AAC 39.222 (c)(3)(F) Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy Sustainable Fisheries

Elevate statutory and constitutional intent into regulatory management and allocation plan to ensure directives remain engaged as intended to protect the public trust. Clarify, elevate and illuminate the intent of the SEAK Comprehensive Salmon Plan and the intent of the PNP Hatchery Act statutory mandate obligations granted to recipients in exchange for the privilege to operate within the public trust and to avoid confusion and misinterpretation from not understanding these significant responsibilities.

PROPOSED BY: Pioneer Alaskan Fisheries Inc. (EF-F20-107)
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PROPOSAL 104
5 AAC 33.3XX. New Section.
Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Burnett Inlet, as follows:

5 AAC 33.3XX. Burnett Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

(a) This management plan distributes the harvest of hatchery produced chum salmon in the Burnett Inlet Terminal Harvest Area between the purse seine, troll and drift gillnet fleets.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), shall manage the Burnett Inlet Terminal Harvest Area from June 01 through November 10 for troll, purse seine and drift gillnet gear to provide for the harvest of hatchery- produced chum salmon, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Burnett Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, for the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association

Burnett Inlet Hatchery, consisting of all waters of Burnett Inlet, Etolin Island, north of 56° 04.65' N. lat. and south of 56° 10.38' N. lat.

(c) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in length.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), is a non-profit regional salmon enhancement association headquartered in Ketchikan, Alaska. SSRAA owns and operates the Burnett Inlet Hatchery (BIH), situated on Etolin Island. BIH is a broodstock collection site for summer and fall chum, which are also released at BIH after incubation, hatching and rearing to release size. The adult chums return to BIH through numerous common property fishery corridors, notably in Districts 6 and 8, and enter Burnett Inlet starting in mid to late June. These chums are well segregated from natural stocks when they are in the terminal area. Although SSRAA requires taking a portion of these returning chums for broodstock and cost recovery, common property fishers in the terminal area should be allowed to catch the remaining fish. This practice allows for an efficient fishery and full utilization of the resource. Establishing a Terminal Harvest Area (THA) in regulation for this situation is the industry standard best practice method, and with progeny from increased release sizes returning in 2021, a newly-established THA will meet the needs of fishers as well as SSRAA. In cooperation with the Department's area management biologists, SSRAA will manage the THA for all user groups in accordance with direction from the SSRAA Board of Directors, applicable regulations, and Emergency Order authority. The SSRAA Board is made up of 21 members from the seine, gillnet and troll gear groups an addition to representatives of regional municipalities, chambers of commerce, fish processors, native corporations, sportfishing interests, subsistence users, and members-at-large. If there is not a THA established, SSRAA would be required to harvest the terminal fish, creating logistical difficulties and possibly leading to excessive cost recovery.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (EF-F20-071)
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PROPOSAL 105
5 AAC 33.3XX. New Section.
Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Port Saint Nicholas, as follows:

PORT SAINT NICHOLAS TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN
(a) This management plan distributes the harvest of hatchery produced king salmon in the Port Saint Nicholas Terminal Harvest Area between the purse seine, troll and drift gillnet fleets.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), shall manage the Port Saint Nicholas Terminal Harvest Area from May 1 through July 31 for troll, purse seine and drift gillnet gear to provide for the harvest of hatchery - produced king salmon, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Port Saint Nicholas Terminal Harvest area, consisting of all waters of Port Saint Nicholas east of the longitude of Point Miraballes at 133° 05.23' W. long., and west of the longitude at 132° 59.50' W. long., located at the mouth of the Port Saint Nicholas head stream.

(c) The THA is expanded, only for troll gear, to the waters of Port Saint Nicholas and Bucareli Bay north and east of a line from Cape Suspiro at 55°27.48′ N lat, 133°08.54′ W long, to the northernmost tip of Toti Island at 55°24.90′ N lat, 133°07.34′ W long, to Point Miraballes at 55°25.86′ N lat, 133°05.20′ W long.

(d) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in length.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), is a non-profit regional salmon enhancement association headquartered in Ketchikan, Alaska. SSRAA operates the Port Saint Nicholas (PSN) Hatchery near the City of Craig on Prince of Wales Island. PSN chinook salmon eggs are taken at Whitman Lake Hatchery and incubated and reared at Port Saint Nicholas Hatchery, releasing them after a brief period of saltwater imprinting and grow-out at a net pen site in Port Saint Nicholas. The adult chinook are caught in winter and spring fisheries throughout the region, and mature adults return to PSN through fisheries in Districts 3 and 4 and enter PSN starting in May. These salmon are well segregated from natural stocks when they are in the terminal area. Common property fishers in the terminal area are expected to catch a majority of these fish, and SSRAA will clean up the rest as cost recovery. This practice allows for an efficient fishery and full utilization of the resource. Establishing a Terminal Harvest Area (THA) in regulation for this situation is the industry standard best practice method, and with progeny from increased release sizes in future years, a newly-established THA will be in place to meet the needs of common property fishers as well as SSRAA.

In cooperation with the Department's area management biologists, SSRAA will manage the THA for all user groups in accordance with direction from the SSRAA Board of Directors, applicable regulations, and Emergency Order authority. The SSRAA Board is made up of 21 members from the seine, gillnet and troll gear groups an addition to representatives of regional municipalities, chambers of commerce, fish processors, native corporations, sportfishing interests, subsistence users, and members-at-large. If there is not a THA established, SSRAA would harvest a larger number of terminal fish, creating logistical difficulties and possibly leading to excessive cost recovery.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (EF-F20-116)

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PROPOSAL 106

5 AAC 40.053. District 3: Port Saint Nicholas Special Harvest Area.

Modify boundaries of the Port Saint Nicholas Special Harvest Area and allow use of drift gillnet gear for cost recovery operations, as follows:

5 AAC 40.053 (a) is amended to read:

There is established the Port Saint Nicholas Special Harvest area, consisting of all waters of Port Saint Nicholas east of [133° 02.92' W. LONG]. **the longitude of Point Miraballes at 133° 05.23' W. long.**, and west of the longitude at 132° 59.50' W. long., located at the mouth of the Port Saint Nicholas head stream.

And

5 AAC 40.053 (c) is amended to read:
Notwithstanding 5 AAC 33.330, legal gear for the hatchery permit holder in the special harvest area are purse seine, beach seine, dip net**, and gillnet.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), is a non-profit regional salmon enhancement association headquartered in Ketchikan, Alaska. SSRAA operates the Port Saint Nicholas (PSN) Hatchery which releases chinook salmon at a net pen site in Port Saint Nicholas. PSN chinook salmon eggs are incubated and reared at Port St. Nicholas Hatchery. Saltwater grow-out and imprinting these chinook smolts is done at the PSN net pen site. The adult chinook are caught in winter and spring fisheries throughout the region, and mature adults return to PSN through fisheries in Districts 3 and 4 and enter PSN starting in May. These salmon are well segregated from natural stocks when they are in the terminal area. Common property fishers in and near the terminal area are expected to catch a majority of these fish, and SSRAA will clean up the rest as cost recovery. SSRAA proposes that the SHA is enlarged to accommodate the potential for expanded cost recovery fishing for incrementally larger releases of chinook salmon when compared to the previous PSN operator, POWHA (Prince of Wales Hatchery Association). This proposed SHA line will also mirror the newly-proposed net fishery THA line for PSN which is being heard this Board cycle. Finally, adding gillnet as a legal gear type will allow SSRAA an additional tool to fully harvest all the returning chinook in a cost recovery clean-up, which is a permit condition and best management practice.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (EF-F20-114)
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PROPOSAL 107
5 AAC 33.3XX. New Section.
Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Port Asumcion, as follows:

PORT ASUMCION TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN
a) This management plan provides for the terminal area common property harvest of hatchery-produced chum and coho salmon in the Port Asumcion Terminal Harvest Area and distributes the harvest between the seine, gillnet, and troll fleets.
b) The department in consultation with Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), shall manage the waters of Port Asumcion north and west of a line from Point Cosinas at 55°21.80' N. lat., 133°30.64' W. long., to a point west of Point Maria located at 55°22.04' N. lat, 133°30.26' W. long.
c) Openings will be by emergency order once SSRAA cost recovery for the site has been secured.
d) Salmon may be taken by purse seine, gillnet, and troll gear from June 15 to October 30.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), is a non-profit regional salmon enhancement association headquartered in Ketchikan, Alaska. SSRAA operates the Port Asumcion (PA) net pen site on

Baker Island, which releases both summer chum and fall coho. PA summer chum salmon eggs are currently incubated at both Burnett Inlet Hatchery and Port St. Nicholas Hatchery; for future years, this production will be centralized and directed towards Port St. Nicholas Hatchery. The fall coho are all transported to PA from the coho program at the Klawock River Hatchery. Both chum and coho salmon are transported to PA for a brief period of grow-out and saltwater imprinting. SSRAA expects the adult chums and coho to return to PA through fisheries in Districts 3 and 4 and enter PA starting in mid-June. Coho will return to the terminal area starting in late July and continuing through September. Both species of salmon will be well segregated from natural stocks when they are in the terminal area. SSRAA will take all possible terminal chums and coho for cost recovery, but in the possible years of excess returns, common property fishers in the terminal area should be allowed to catch the remaining fish. This practice allows for an efficient fishery and full utilization of the resource. Establishing a Terminal Harvest Area (THA) in regulation for this situation is the industry standard best practice method, and with progeny from increased release sizes returning in 2021, a newly-established THA will be in place to meet the needs of fishers as well as SSRAA. In cooperation with the Department's area management biologists, SSRAA will manage the THA for all user groups in accordance with direction from the SSRAA Board of Directors, applicable regulations, and Emergency Order authority. The SSRAA Board is made up of 21 members from the seine, gillnet and troll gear groups an addition to representatives of regional municipalities, chambers of commerce, fish processors, native corporations, sportfishing interests, subsistence users, and members-at-large. If there is not a THA established, SSRAA would be required to harvest the terminal fish, creating logistical difficulties and possibly leading to excessive cost recovery.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (EF-F20-115)

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PROPOSAL 108

5 AAC 40.XXX. New section.

Create a special harvest area for Port Asumcion, as follows:

5 AAC 40.XXX. District 3: Port Asumcion Special Harvest Area Management Plan. (a) There is established the Port Asumcion Special Harvest Area for the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association harvest of enhanced salmon returns to the Port Asumcion release site, consisting of those waters of Port Asumcion north and west of a line from Point Cosinas at 55°21.80′ N. lat., 133°30.64′ W. long., to a point west of Point Maria located at 55°22.04′ N. lat., 133°30.26′ W. long.

(b) A hatchery permit holder harvesting salmon within the special harvest area is exempt from the provisions of 5 AAC 33.310. The open fishing season within the Port Asumcion Special Harvest Area for the hatchery permit holder is from June 15 through October 30.

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 33.330, legal gear for the hatchery permit holder in the special harvest area is purse seine, beach seine, and gillnet.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently, a special harvest area for hatchery produced salmon is established by the department by emergency order. The Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) began releasing chum and coho

salmon in Port Asumcion in 2017. The first coho salmon returns were realized in 2019 and the first returns of chum salmon will begin in 2020. SSRAA intends to use the Port Asumcion Special Harvest Area primarily for cost recovery to provide revenue for annual operating expenses. The department issued an emergency order in 2019 for SSRAA to prosecute cost recovery in Port Asumcion.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-149)

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PROPOSAL 109

5 AAC 40.0XX. New section.

Establish a hatchery special harvest area in Carroll Inlet, as follows:

5 AAC 40.0XX. Carroll Inlet Special Harvest Area.

CARROLL INLET SPECIAL HARVEST AREA

(a) There is established a Carroll Inlet Special Harvest Area for the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association harvest of chinook salmon returns to the Carroll Inlet release site, consisting of the waters of Carroll Inlet north of the latitude of Nigelius Point at 55° 33.50' N. lat., 131° 21.14' W. long.

(b) A hatchery permit holder harvesting salmon within the special harvest area is exempt from the provisions of 5 AAC 33.310. The open fishing season within the Carroll Inlet Special Harvest Area for the hatchery permit holder is from June 01 through July 15 during fishing periods established by emergency order.

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 33.330, legal gear for the hatchery permit holder in the special harvest area is purse seine, beach seine, gillnet, and troll gear.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA), is a non-profit regional salmon enhancement association headquartered in Ketchikan, Alaska. SSRAA operates Whitman Lake Hatchery which releases chinook salmon at a net pen site in Carroll Inlet (CI). CI chinook salmon eggs are taken, incubated and reared at the Whitman Lake Hatchery. Saltwater grow-out and imprinting CI chinook smolts is done at the Carroll Inlet net pen site. The adult chinook are caught in winter and spring fisheries throughout the region, and mature adults return to CI through fisheries in District 1 particularly, entering CI starting in late May. These salmon are temporally segregated from Carroll River summer chum when they are in the terminal area. Common property fishers in and near the terminal area are expected to catch a majority of these fish prior to when the THA closes on July 1, and SSRAA will clean up the rest as cost recovery. SSRAA proposes that cost recovery in the SHA be allowed past when the Carroll Inlet THA closes on July 1 to allow a thorough clean-up of these fish - particularly in the area of the Swan Lake Hydroelectric Project tailrace pool, which is a freshwater source attractant for these chinooks. This narrow window of time from July 1 to July 15 will allow SSRAA additional opportunity to fully harvest all the returning chinook in a cost recovery clean-up, which is a permit condition and best management practice.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (EF-F20-109)
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Commercial salmon

PROPOSAL 110

5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Require reporting and recovery of lost drift gillnet gear, as follows:

Gillnet operation – lost net reporting

5 AAC 33.331(#) A permit holder fishing in the Southeastern Alaska Area must report the loss of a gillnet, or portion of a gillnet, to the local ADF&G department office or enforcement in which they are fishing within 12 hours of the loss of the gillnet, or portion of the gillnet. For the purposes of this subsection, the report must be made directly to a local representative of the department in person or by telephone. The person must take every reasonable effort as safety allows to recover the lost gillnet if located;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? During the summer of 2019, a commercial drift gillnet fisherman lost his gillnet in district 6 on the north east side of Prince of Wales Island. The net drifted freely catching salmon as well as marine mammals until it became tangled on rocks in Snow Pass. The fisherman never attempted to recover his net. Other mariners and fishermen observed the net as it continued to fish. At this time, it became obvious that there was no lost net reporting requirement in Southeastern Alaska like other areas of the state. There is no cork ADF&G number marking requirements as well.

The East POW AC and local residents understand that nets will get damage and lost. However if a commercial drift gillnetter had regulation stating that they must report lost nets and recover them, many fish and marine mammals will not die and waste in these lost nets. Vessels will also not become entangled in them as well. Commercial drift gillnetters who saw the 2019 lost net stated they understood the need for this proposal.

This regulation will allow enforcement action to be taken against a person who carelessly uses the marine waters of Southeastern Alaska as their net dumping grounds. If enacted, the board should also consider a net cork ADF&G number marking requirement as well. This regulation will affect all drift gillnetters in Southeastern Alaska to prevent unwanted waste of salmon and marine mammals as well as a negative view of the gillnet fleet.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-090)
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PROPOSAL 111

5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operation.

Change the maximum drift gillnet mesh size during periods established by emergency order from 6 inches to 6 and one-eight inches, as follows:

5AAC 33.331 Gillnet specification and operation

(d) In Districts 6, 8, 11 and 15, through the fourth Saturday in July, the commissioner may, by emergency order, establish fishing periods during which the maximum gillnet mesh size is **six and one eighth inch (6-1/8")** [SIX INCHES]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We would like to address the ability of the fleet to buy a 6" net off the shelf of the gear suppliers that would allow you to fish the same 6" net during the times of net restrictions for a maximum and minimum net size of 6". Gillnet mesh stretch after use. The amount of stretch depends upon a multitude of conditions including but not limited to: manufacturing machine tolerances of 5%, size of twine, type of twine, the temperature and humidity of the facility when twine and net are manufactured. Without this change, to be on the safe side fishermen would have to buy two nets for many of these areas, a 5-3/4" or so for the maximum and a 6" for the minimum mesh restriction. A full brand new 200 fathom net with all lines is approximately $7,000. By making the maximum size a tad bigger this allows for the net to stretch and still be legal for both net size restrictions reducing the cost for fishermen. A 6-1/8" net would have to be special ordered as it is not a commonly stocked size net. Unfortunately, if you buy a six inch net in good faith you won't know what size it will be until you fish your net for over 24 hours.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-F20-095)

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PROPOSAL 112

5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Provide the department authority to allow drift gillnets of up to 90 meshes in depth to be used in the District 11 drift gillnet fishery beginning in SW 34, as follows:

b) In the Southeastern Alaska Area, a drift gillnet may not be more than 60 meshes in depth, except that there is no maximum depth restriction for a gillnet operated for king salmon cost recovery by a private nonprofit hatchery operator or under contract to a regional aquaculture association in a special harvest area described in 5 AAC 40.030 - 5 AAC 40.081.

(1) in district 11, beginning statistical week 34, at the departments discretion, by emergency order, a drift gill net may not be more than 90 meshes in depth.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The United States has shown an inability to harvest their allowable catch afforded them by the Pacific Salmon Commission Treaty Annex for coho on the Taku River. The current tools only allow increased time and area, which is useful, but use of these tools has not increased catches significantly, as coho tend to travel deeper in the water column. Having deeper nets may increase stakeholders ability to harvest these valuable fish. Adoption of this proposal will give the department a valuable tool for harvesting the United States gillnet allowable catch of PSC treaty Taku coho in times of high abundance.

PROPOSED BY: United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (HQ-F20-121)

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PROPOSAL 113

5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Change the maximum mesh size during periods established by emergency order from 6 inches to a range of five and one-quarter to 6 inches and define dates in Districts 6, 8 and 11 when the mesh size will be implemented, as follows:

5 AAC 33.331. Gillnet specifications and operations

(d) In Districts 6, 8, 11, and 15, through the fourth Saturday in July, the commissioner may by emergency order, establish fishing periods during which the maximum gillnet mesh size is **5.25 inches - 6 inches** [SIX INCHES].

(1) For districts 6 and 8, up to July 1st , when the projected terminal run size forecast for Stikine River large Chinook does not allow for a direct Chinook fishery to transpire.

(2) For district 11 up to July 1st, when the projected terminal run size forecast for the Taku River large Chinook does not allow for a direct Chinook fishery to transpire.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Stikine and Taku Chinook runs are not doing well. It has been qualified by the department that the problem is not over fishing, but the fact remains that these runs would be in better shape to endure the current crises had there been more spawners in the river. This proposal's intent is to ensure that the Stikine and Taku Chinook runs are given the best chance for recovery as can be given. The department has in the past, managed the driftnet sockeye opening in June conservatively, with a 6 inch mesh restriction only if the predicted Chinook terminal run of either river was below the midpoint and near the lower end of the escapement goal range. Often when the predicted terminal run was above the midpoint but below what was necessary to allow a directed Chinook fishery to occur, no mesh restriction was applied. This has happened in the Stikine regional management area in the years 2013 thru 2016. By default, not requiring a mesh restriction during what the driftnet management plan specifies as a sockeye fishery, is in fact allowing a direct Chinook fishery to occur. There is new terminology adopted in the 2019 Transboundary Annex of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, defining when a direct fishery can occur. However, this new language does not change the fact, that if a direct fishery is not called for a king net could be allowed in the June sockeye fishery. The direct fisheries for Chinook only occur in districts 8 and 11, yet district 8 is semi-surrounded by district 6 and Stikine Chinook will be intercepted there on their way to the river drainage in the June sockeye fishery. I included district 6 in this proposal because of that and also the impacts of this proposal on the driftnet sockeye fishery. From the 2019 driftnet management plan concerning district 6 and 8 pg 11 below.

"Sockeye salmon fishing in both districts will be managed in accordance with the TBR Annex of the PST. The Annex allows District 6 to be managed primarily for local Alaska sockeye salmon stocks. Management of District 8 is based on the harvest of sockeye salmon of Stikine River origin," and "During the first few weeks of the sockeye salmon fishery, any extended fishing time or midweek openings will be based on the preseason forecasts, harvest, expected harvest levels, and stock proportion data."

If the sockeye fishery's performance data is used to determine the potential terminal runs of sockeye to these Transboundary rivers and other local systems, allowing a net mesh that enables

the target species to swim thru it, defeats that purpose. In district 6 and 8 king nets have been used during the June sockeye fishery when no mesh restrictions were required. This practice is potentially costly to the gillnet fleet since the sockeye run could be underestimated, thus leading to less fishing periods.

There is a base level catch (BLC) of Transboundary river kings allowed for each country to procure other fisheries when a direct king salmon fishery is not warranted. Pg.23 of the 2019 Transboundary agreement below.

"(Q) When the terminal run is insufficient to provide for the Parties' Stikine River Chinook salmon BLC and the lower end of the escapement goal range, the reductions in each Party's base level fisheries, i.e. the fisheries that contributed to the BLCs, shall be proportional to the Stikine BLC shares."

The term base level fisheries could only be fisheries that incidentally harvest Transboundary river king salmon. Because if it wasn't incidental, it would have to be intentional or direct. So, for Alaska to allow a king net during a sockeye fishery would in fact be targeting the base level catch of Chinook and a direct fishery, when the purpose of the BLC is really for incidental harvest.

Allowing a king net during the June sockeye fisheries could also be to target Anita bay and other Alaska hatchery king salmon. Yet there is no management plan for the driftnet fleet to target hatchery king salmon outside of the terminal areas and I seriously doubt the Board of Fisheries would approve one, given that the driftnet fleet has been consistently 13-15% over their hatchery allocation. In fact, the current practice of allowing king nets in the June sockeye fishery, defiantly contributes to the driftnet overage as it is.

I have left the actual mesh size of this proposal to be determined by the Board of Fisheries if they choose to adopt it. Why? Because I do not understand the current department policy when it comes to a mesh restriction, six inches is the choice.

The department has done a study on gillnet mesh size effectiveness, "Catch Efficiency Comparisons Of Four Commercial Gillnet Mesh Sizes In The Taking Of Sockeye And Chum Salmon In Districts 11 1 And 115, Southeast Alaska." From that study (pg 4 and I paraphrase): In District 1 1 1, the 6" mesh caught the fewest sockeye over the study period (2.6 fish/hour), The 5 1/4" mesh was significantly more effective in catching sockeye salmon than the 5 3/4, 6", and 6 1/4" mesh sizes, and the 5 3/4" was significantly more effective than the 6" or 6 1/4" mesh.

When the target species is sockeye, it makes little sense, if the above study is referenced for the department traditionally to implement a 6 inch mesh restriction. So, I let the Board of Fisheries decide and maybe some new information will become evident and help them with the decision.

Finally, I have limited the time frame in which this mesh restriction would apply because both the Taku and Stikine Chinook runs are 100% in river by the first part of July. Imposing a mesh restriction beyond that time would be an unnecessary burden on the gillnet fleet and deprive them of opportunity to harvest wild and hatchery chum and Chinook salmon. Yet, not continuing the restriction until the fourth Saturday in July, still may affect the data used for the sockeye fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Merritt (HQ-F20-115)
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PROPOSAL 114
5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations.
Allow the use of fishing rods in conjunction with downriggers by hand trollers, as follows:

The new regulation would omit the downrigger restrictions and simply state:

"(B) from each fishing rod: only one line with no more than one leader and one lure or two baited hooks per leader"
OR
"(B) from each fishing rod: only one line with no more than one leader and one lure or two baited hooks per leader; no more than one fishing rod may be attached to a downrigger"

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? 5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations (b) (2) (B) states:

"(B) from each fishing rod: only one line with no more than one leader and one lure or two baited hooks per leader; a downrigger may not be used in conjunction with a fishing rod"

The specific issue to address is the unnecessary restrictions placed on hand trollers by prohibiting the use of downriggers in conjunction with fishing rods. Downriggers are simply a mechanism to control the depth of the hooks. Accurately controlling depth is a key part of targeting fish species, especially during chinook openings. It is an unfair and unnecessary restriction, especially to those that are starting out in the hand troll fishery or those that are fishing from vessels that cannot be, or cannot easily be, equipped with hand troll gurdies. If the concern is somehow the ability to use the downrigger for multiple lines, I have also included alternative language that could be adopted.

PROPOSED BY: William Dawley (EF-F20-038)
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PROPOSAL 115
5 AAC 29.070. General fishing seasons and periods.
Modify the start date of the winter troll fishery, as follows:

The fishing seasons for the salmon troll fishery are as follows:

winter season from October 1 through April 30.

summer season from May 1 through September 30.

(b) The department shall manage the king salmon troll fishery to provide for

(1) a winter fishery during the period beginning October 11 **the first day of week 41** through April 30 or until the guideline harvest level is reached, as specified in 5 AAC 29.080, whichever occurs first;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Under the 2019-2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST) agreement the CPUE winter troll assessment begins on ADF&G statistical Week 41. The first day of a statistical week is Sunday. The PST does not give Alaskan domestic management direction for an opening date for the fishery.

In recent years the Winter Troll Fishery opened on Oct 11th. During the 2018–2020 seasons the Winter Troll Fishery, under provisions of the Unuk River Stock of Concern (SOC) management plan, closed 6 weeks early (March 15th,) without reaching the Winter Troll GHL of 45,000 non-Alaskan hatchery fish.

The early closure of this lucrative part of the season has economically devastated SEAK's trollers. During the Early Winter Troll Fishery (Oct-Dec), the estimated abundance and encounters of Southeast Alaska (SEAK) SOC are lower than at other times of the year. Opening the Winter Troll Fishery on the first day of Week 41 would give trollers back a few days of trolling when king salmon are at their highest value and with lower impact on SEAK SOC.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Trollers Association (EF-F20-047)

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PROPOSAL 116

5 AAC 29.140. Size limits, possession, and landing requirements.

Require retention of king salmon caught during periods of nonretention to be retained if they are deemed too injured to be released and set price at one dollar for selling retained fish, as follows:

Whereas King salmon taken as bycatch during a closed season may be too injured to survive, the release of an obviously injured fish constitutes waste of a valuable resource. Such waste serves no useful purpose. When a king salmon is deemed unsalvageable by the fisher, said fish may be retained and sold for a price to the fisher of one dollar. The remainder of the commercial value of said fish shall accrue to the State of Alaska.

Such a provision would prevent waste, and the minimal compensation would prevent false claims by the fisher. I live near a hub for troll fishing and hear first-hand the anguish that fishers feel when they release a fish that will likely die as evidenced by excessive bleeding.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Issue: Waste of king salmon taken as bycatch during troll fishery openings for other species

PROPOSED BY: Ralph Wells (EF-F20-004)

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PROPOSAL 117

5 AAC 29.112. Management of chum salmon troll fishery.

Allow trollers the use of two additional fishing lines in designated chum troll fishing areas in August and September, as follows:

5 AAC 29.112. Management of chum salmon troll fishery
(a) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, a hatchery chum salmon troll fishery only during the summer coho salmon troll fishery closures specified in 5 AAC 29.110(b)(2).
(b) If the commissioner opens a season under (a) of this section, chum salmon fishing will occur only
(1) in the waters of Sitka Sound and the Eastern Channel east of a line from Vitskari Rock Light to Inner Point, south of a line from Inner Point to Black Rock at 57_ 03.12' N. lat., 135_ 25.63' W. long., to Signal Island Light at 57_ 02.78' N. lat., 135_ 23.58' W. long., and north of a line from Cape Burunof at 56_ 59.03' N. lat., 135_ 23.23' W. long., to Kulichkof Rock at 56_ 59.52' N. lat., 135_ 26.62' W. long., to Vitskari Rock Light
(2) in the waters of Neets Bay east of the longitude of Chin Point to the longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island; and
(3) in the portions of Crawfish Inlet east of 135_ 11.05' W. long., as determined by the department for conservation management reasons.
(c) When the summer king salmon troll fishery is closed, a person may not have king salmon on board a salmon troll vessel while fishing for chum salmon.
(d) When the summer coho salmon troll fishery is closed, a person may not have coho salmon on board a salmon troll vessel while fishing for chum salmon.
(e) In the areas described in areas (1) (3) and (4) in this section trollers may use 6 lines during the following times in the defined areas. * Note that area "(4)" is the new West Crawfish area:
(1) August and September (historic enhanced chum troll run season for these areas)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? For a variety of reasons, trollers are chronically behind their enhanced chum troll allocation. The objective of this proposal is to provide a means of modifying the allowable troll gear on a licensed troll vessel, to allow the use of 6 lines for targeting chums in the areas defined in this proposal, solely for the purpose of achieving greater success of harvesting the enhanced chum troll allocation. This proposal will provide considerable positive outcomes such as contributing to the ongoing problem solving ideas and concepts of facilitating getting trollers closer to their allocation while helping to alleviate often other contentious discussions and management issues such as adjustments to time and/or area closures to net fisheries in the vicinity of these areas.

PROPOSED BY: Jeff Farvour (EF-F20-110)
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PROPOSAL 118
5 AAC 33.200. Fishing districts and sections.
Modify the boundaries of Districts 6 and 8 in Sumner Strait, as follows:

5 AAC 33.200(f)(1) and 5 AAC 33.200(h)

(f) District 6: all water of Clarence Strait north of a line from Narrow Point to Lemesurier Point to Ernest Point to the most southerly point on Etolin Island, Stikine Strait south of the latitude of Round Point, Sumner Strait west of a line from Point Alexander, to [LOW POINT] **Northwestern tip of Northerly Island** east of a line from Point Baker to Point Barrie, Wrangell Narrows south and west of a line from Prolewy Point to the northern tip of Mitkof Island and all waters of Duncan Canal;

(1) Section 6-A: water north of a line from the tip of Point Colpys to the tip of Macnamara Point, west of a line from the [TIP OF LOW POINT] **Northwestern Tip of Northerly Island** to the tip of Point Alexander and east of a line from the tip of Point Barrie to the tip of Point Baker.

…

(h) District 8: waters of Frederick Sound south of a line from Wood Point to Beacon Point (excluding Wrangell Narrows), Sumner Strait east of a line from Point Alexander to [LOW POINT] **Northwestern Tip of Northerly Island** Stikine Strait north of the latitude of Round Point, Zimovia Strait north of the latitude of Nemo Point and Eastern Passage west of a line from Hour Point (56 degrees, 27.80' N. lat., 132 degrees, 16.63 W. long), to Babbler Point;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like the Board of Fish to adopt change to the District 6 and 8 boundary line from the normal boundary from Point Alexander 56 degrees, 30.55 minutes North Latitude, 132 degrees 57.01 minutes West Longitude to Low Point 56 degrees, 27.17 North Latitude, 132 degrees 57.17 West Longitude.

Change boundary line to Point Alexander 56 degrees, 30.55 minutes north, 132 degrees, 57.01 minutes West to the Northwestern Tip of Northerly Island at 56 degrees, 26.56 North Latitude, 132 degrees, 58.63 minutes West Longitude. This adjustment moves the southern marker approximately 3/4 mile West.

The department often does a slight Westerly adjustment of the district 6 and 8 boundary line during regular drift gillnet openings and drift gillnet midweek openings. Adopting the change would make it unnecessary to make constant adjustments to the boundary line reducing any confusion if there were any changes during a drift gillnet midweek opening. Also, the normal southern line has reef and pinnacle hazards along the beach, moving the line slightly west moves the fishery away from the hazard and allows for a more orderly line fishery. This does not make sockeye more vulnerable since fishing this area is a tide change area which does not last very long until the tide runs too hard to be effective and the main body of sockeye pushes past.

If the regulation is not changed, this will not have much affect on any District 8 fishery. The department will continue doing as they have to establish lines for a fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Ed Tagaban (EF-F20-051)

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PROPOSAL 119

5 AAC 33.200. Fishing district and sections; 5 AAC 33.310. Fishing seasons and periods for net gear; and 5 AAC 33.359. Section 6-D Pink salmon management plan.

Create a new section in District 6 and reimplement the Section 6-D Pink Salmon Management Plan, as follows:

5 AAC 33.200 (f), 5 AAC 33.310(a)(6) and (c)(2)(B) and 5 AAC 33.359 are amended to read:

5 AAC 33.200 (f)(4) Section 6-D: [ALL OTHER WATERS OF THE DISTRICT] **waters east of Sections 6-B and 6-C and west of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy at 56o10.68' N. lat., 132o44.36'W. long. to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington at 56o10.27' N. lat., 132o43.57' W. long. to a point on Etolin Island at 56o09.60' N. lat., 132o42.70' W. long. to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope at 56000.69' N. lat., 132o36.47' W. long.**
(f)(5) Section 6-E: all other waters of the district.

5 AAC 33.310(a)(6) District 6, Sections 6-C, 6-D and 6-E only;

(c)(2)(B) Section**[S] 6-D** [WEST OF A LINE FROM MARIPOSA ROCK BUOY AT 56O10.68' N. LAT., 132O44.36'W. LONG. TO THE NORTHERNMOST TIP OF POINT HARRINGTON AT 56O10.27' N. LAT., 132O43.57' W. LONG. TO A POINT ON ETOLIN ISLAND AT 56O09.60' N. LAT., 132O42.70' W.LONG. TO THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF POINT STANHOPE AT 56000.69' N. LAT., 132O36.47' W. LONG.] is open.

5 AAC 33.359 Section 6-D Pink Salmon Management Plan. (a) The department may open those portions of Section 6-D [DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.313(C)(2)(B)] to drift gillnet fishing during the period of time that is after the first Saturday in August and before the first Sunday in September as described in this section.

(b) If a purse seine fishery is announced to be opened or is opened in [THE PORTION OF] Section 6-D [DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.310(C)(2)(B)] for any portion of one day, the drift gillnet fishery may open in [THE SAME PORTION OF] Section 6-D as follows:

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The portion of Section 6-D that may open to drift gillnetting at certain times of the salmon season should be clearly defined. This issue has been confusing for many years. We suggest that a new section in District 6 be adopted that clearly defines this area. This change would not affect existing purse seine and drift gillnet fishing opportunities in District 6.

PROPOSED BY: Leonard Leach and Doug Rhodes (EF-F20-061)
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PROPOSAL 120
5 AAC 33.200. Fishing district and sections; 5 AAC 33.310. Fishing seasons and periods for net gear; and 5 AAC 33.359. Section 6-D Pink salmon management plan.
Remove Section 6-D closure to fishing with drift gillnet gear during the month of August, as follows:

During Pink Salmon Management, if no purse seine openings are scheduled in 6-E, 6-E would be open to gillnetting when District 6 is open.

5 AAC 33.359 Section 6-D Pink Salmon Management Plan. (a) The department may open [THOSE PORTIONS OF] Section 6-D [DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.313(C)(2)(B)] to drift gillnet fishing during the period of time that is after the first Saturday in August and before the first Sunday in September as described in this section.

5 AAC 33.310(a)(6) District 6, Sections 6-C, 6-D **and 6-E** only;

(c)(2)(B) Section**s** 6-D **and 6-E** [WEST OF A LINE FROM MARIPOSA ROCK BUOY AT 56°10.68' N. LAT., 132°44.36'W. LONG. TO THE NORTHERNMOST TIP OF POINT HARRINGTON AT 56°10.27' N. LAT., 132°43.57' W. LONG. TO A POINT ON ETOLIN ISLAND AT 56°09.60' N. LAT., 132°42.70' W.LONG. TO THE SOUTHERNMOST TIP OF POINT STANHOPE AT 56°00.69' N. LAT., 132°36.47' W. LONG.] is open.

5 AAC 33.359

(a) **(1)** The department may open [THOSE PORTIONS OF] Section 6-D [DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.313(C)(2)(B)] to drift gillnet fishing during the period of time that is after the first Saturday in August and before the first Sunday in September as described in this section.

(2) Section 6-E will open and close by emergency order for commercial fishing with drift gillnet gear concurrent with drift gillnet commercial salmon fishing periods in any other portion of District 6.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? 6-E being closed during Pink Salmon Management makes it difficult to fish District 6 without drifting over the 6-E boundary.

PROPOSED BY: Leonard Leach and Doug Rhodes (EF-F20-062)
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PROPOSAL 121
5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.
Establish waters closed to commercial drift gillnet fishing in and around Coffman Cove, as follows:

Closed waters for taking salmon with net gear.

5 AAC 33.350(g)(17), close the waters for net gear in Coffman Cove waters north and west of line from a point located at 56'00.959'N lat., 132'48.653'W long to a point at the southern tip of The Triplets located at 56'03.470'N lat., 132'49.960'W long, and south of the latitude of 56'03.470 which is located at the southern tip of The Triplets;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Coffman Cove have seen a greater presence of un-guided non-resident sport fishing anglers and commercial gillnetters in the area of Coffman Cove. Both the un-guided non-resident vessels as well as local resident vessels have had issues while attempting to leave and return back to Coffman Cove while

navigating around commercial gillnets. Commercial gillnetters will fish 300 fathom drift gillnets directly at the mouth of Coffman Cove. Clarence Strait is known to having harsh wind and sea conditions. Skiffs have ran into drift gillnets while attempting to return back into the safe waters of Coffman Cove. At the writing of this proposal, there have been no reported injuries or death associated with collisions with drift gillnets near Coffman. This proposal is being submitted in an attempt to prevent any collisions of small sport fish vessels and the commercial gillnets. Coffman Cove sport fisherman often times leave Coffman Cove and fish from The Triplets further north. Closing a small area, due to the safety concern, in the area given is in an attempt to protect life and prevent injuries as well as protect damage to commercial nets. This regulation change will not greatly effect commercial gillnetters as they will adapt by fishing the next point, three quarters of a mile south of the entrance of Coffman Cove.

PROPOSED BY: The East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-089)
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PROPOSAL 122
5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.
Remove sunset date so regulation remains in effect, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.

(a) During July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:
(1) the department may open only those portions of the area in which a harvestable abundance of pink salmon is observed; open areas and times must consider conservation concerns for all species in the area;
(2) [THROUGH THE 2020 SEASON] the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as taken north of Point Marsden when other areas are open concurrently through July 22; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 wild sockeye salmon harvest limit; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling, interviews, and fish tickets to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We would like to make 5 AAC 33.366 (a)(2) permanent. That regulation is currently set to expire after the 2020 season. That provision in this regulation, particularly the sockeye salmon accounting date of July 22, was the result of compromise between the commercial net gear groups during the 2018 Southeast Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Native Inter-Tribal Association of Seiners (HQ-F20-007)
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PROPOSAL 123
5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.

Remove the sunset date so regulation remains in effect and change effective end date of the plan from July 22 to July 15, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366
(a) During July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

(1) The department may open only those portions of the area in which a harvestable abundance of pink salmon is observed; open areas and times must consider conservation concerns for all species in the area;

(2) [THROUGH THE 2020 SEASON] The department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as taken north of Point Marsden when other areas are open concurrently through July **15** [22]; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 wild sockeye salmon harvest limit; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling, interviews, and fish tickets to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The provisions in section (2) sunsets and needs to be addressed. We would like to have access to north migrating pink salmon during years when abundance allows.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (HQ-F20-103)
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PROPOSAL 124
5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plan.
Establish additional guidelines for the department to manage the District 12 purse seine fishery north of Point Marsden, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plan. (a) during the month of July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

(1) the department may open only those portions of the area in which a harvestable abundance of pink salmon is observed; open areas and times must consider conservation concerns for all species in the area;

(2) the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken, as described in this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on the ground sampling, interviews, and fish tickets to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden in District 12; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; the wild sockeye salmon that will count against the 15000 sockeye salmon limit under this paragraph is as follows.

(A) all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden in District 12 during any July fishing period when other areas are open concurrently.

(b) Salmon may be taken during emergency order openings for chum salmon in Excursion Inlet only in waters of Section 14-C north of the latitude of the northern tip of the Porpoise Islands. The commissioner may open the area by emergency order only after consideration of concerns for chum and coho salmon conservation.

(c) The department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 south of Point Marsden. Before opening fishing areas and times under this subsection, the department must consider conservation concerns for all salmon species in the area, and

(1) the portion of District 12 within two miles of the Admiralty Island shoreline south of the latitude of Point Hepburn at 57° 56.21' N. lat. and north of the latitude of Fishery Point at 57° 47.36' N. lat. may not open before July 17;

(2) the portion of District 12 within two miles of the Admiralty Island shoreline south of the latitude of Fishery Point at 57° 47.36' N. lat. and north of the latitude of Parker Point at 57° 36.73' N. lat. may not open before July 21.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? During the 2018 SE Finfish meeting, an agreement was made between the seines and gillnets on a seine generated proposal to move the wild sockeye cap ending date to July 22 from its original date of through the month of July. The regulation was to sunset after three years. As a result of poor wording in the regulation, the wild 15,000 sockeye cap will also sunset out of regulation. This was not the intent of the agreement, as our gear group would never have signed on. The 15,000 sockeye cap is a long standing regulation that recognizes the highly mixed stocked aspects of this particular area. We feel that the 15,000 cap is an important management tool, particularly in high abundance pink years, to allow passage of sockeye bound for both PSC systems and Alaska systems that the gillnet fleet is managed for.

PROPOSED BY: United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (HQ-F20-122)

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Personal Use/Sport/Subsistence

Subsistence

PROPOSAL 125

5 AAC 01.730. Subsistence fishing permits.

Clarify language for subsistence take of coho and king salmon, as follows:

5 AAC 01.730

(b) Permits will not be issued for the taking of coho salmon from the Taku River and Stikine River drainages, [OR FOR KING SALMON]. [HOWEVER] **K**ing or coho salmon taken incidentally by gear operated under terms of a subsistence permit for other salmon are legally taken and possessed for subsistence purposes as described in (j) of this section.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Regulation does not apply to Yakutat area.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F20-112)

The lead-in language for proposal 125 was corrected on 10/7/2020.

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PROPOSAL 126

5 AAC 01.670. Lawful gear and gear specifications.

Repeal net tending requirement in Yakutat Bay, as follows:

We recommend that the new regulation be repealed and restored to its original regulation. There was no data produced to back the need for the change in the regulation which is now in effect. We strongly feel it was all based on speculation.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The new regulation (5 AAC 01.670) that went into effect in 2018 that requires subsistence users to attend their net at all times.

Reasons:
This new regulation was proposed in 2017 and implemented on behalf of Yakutat in 2018 by the Fish and Game Advisory Committee without any public notices for comments because of poor networking or posting notices. Because of this, the regulation only reflects the view of a few.

The subsistence fisheries are targeted and hampered. This regulation specifically targets one group of users, bay subsistence fisheries, but they abolish this new regulation with the opening of the commercial set net fishery. There is no regulation that hampers the commercial fishermen in this way.

State law requires that subsistence is a high priority. With this new regulation, many families are hampered in acquiring their subsistence King Salmon.

Most people who subsistence fish check their nets periodically over the course of the day instead of sitting on their nets because most are at work. There are a few who leave it out too long without checking it, but it is a very small fraction of all who subsistence fish for Chinooks, and the majority should not be penalized for those few.

There is no data collected that shows this regulation would help save any salmon or how much salmon is taken by marine mammals such as the sea lions or seal. As many know, the troll fishermen lose their kings to sea lions off their hooks, and the commercial fishermen lose their kings to the seals and sea lions on a daily basis, but the subsistence users are the only ones targeted by this regulation.

PROPOSED BY: Yak-Tat Kwaan, Inc. (HQ-F20-127)

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PROPOSAL 127

5 AAC 01.670. Lawful gear and specifications.

Repeal net tending requirement in Yakutat Bay, as follows:

Repeal the new restrictions that require subsistence fishers to be at the set net site at all times. Most subsistence fishers place their nets close to their homes where they can leave a skiff anchored close to the net and attend it regularly during the day.

Repeal the new restrictions **(**5 AAC 01.670) and manage subsistence fishing the same as commercial fishing, by requiring fishers to be at the set gillnet **site** at all times.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Proposal to repeal new restrictions requiring subsistence salmon fishing permit holder to attend set net gillnets, at all times, in Yakutat Bay.

The new restrictions in Yakutat Bay require subsistence users to attend gill nets at all times, in April and May, has almost completely eliminated the spring king harvest for subsistence users. Subsistence fishers catch on average less than 1 fish per day with most coming over night. Fishers cannot reasonably sit on nets all day and all night to catch less than 1 fish.

The Yakutat Tlingit Tribe believes the Board of Fisheries did not consider or expect this change in regulations to almost eliminate subsistence harvest of spring Kings. The Kings harvested in April and May are one of the most important subsistence foods taken by local residents.

This loss of spring Kings to our tribal members fails to provide the priority for subsistence the law requires. While subsistence users suffer the loss on average of 200 Kings annually, a newly established troll fishery is harvesting the same fish on a 1,000 fish quota, and the commercial set gill net fishery is not required to attend nets at all times, even though fish are much more abundant during the fishery. They are only required to be at the set net site. This is no way to provide a priority for subsistence.

Most tribal members were not aware that these restrictions were being considered. The local Fish and Game Advisory Committee did a poor job informing the public on such an important proposal. The committee failed to adequately inform the public.

If this problem is not solved: Our tribal members and other subsistence users will continue to be denied one of the most important subsistence foods harvested by this community. The subsistence lifestyle treasured by this community will forever be damaged.

PROPOSED BY: Yakutat Tlingit Tribe (EF-F20-101, HQ-F20-128)

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PROPOSAL 128

5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications.

Allow use of set gillnets in all Southeast Alaska area subsistence salmon fisheries, as follows:

Fish may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010(a) except as may be restricted under the terms of a subsistence fishing permit and except as follows:

(1) in District 13, Redoubt Bay, gillnet or seine gear may not be used to take salmon in any waters of the bay closed to commercial salmon fishing;

(2) a set gillnet **[MAY NOT BE]** used to take salmon **may only be anchored or fixed at one end** except;

(A) the mainstream and side channels, but not the tributaries, of the Chilkat River from the terminus to one mile upstream of Wells Bridge; and

(B) District 5 in Shipley Bay, not more than 100 yards from the terminus of Shipley Creek;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The intent of the proposal is to allow subsistence users to use set gillnets when harvesting salmon. The proposed regulation allows set gillnets to be anchored only at one end, which has the effect of requiring nets to be closely attended. The current regulation prohibiting set gillnets is unnecessarily restrictive, as subsistence users should be allowed to use the most efficient legal gear type available to them. In particular, allowing the use of set gillnets will allow people to fish alone more effectively. Managers will still be able to use permit restrictions to address issues at specific sites.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F20-110)
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PROPOSAL 129
5 AAC 01.725. Waters closed to subsistence fishing and 5 AAC 01.745. Subsistence bag and possession limits; annual limits.
Modify closed waters and remove coho salmon annual limit for the Klawock River, as follows:

Allow for customary & traditional harvest of Coho to also occur beyond the Klawock River bridge to the Klawock River estuary from August 15-September 30. Change annual harvest of forty (40) Coho annually to twenty (20) Coho per day per resident.

Draft Regulatory Language:

Waters closed to subsistence fishing. (a) Salmon may not be taken for subsistence purposes in:
(1) the Klawock River drainage upstream of the Klawock River Bridge; except for subsistence caught Coho from August 15-September 30. Daily limit shall be twenty (20) coho with no annual limit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Hatchery coho have become abundant on the Klawock River.

Coho harvest has a boundary that doesn't meet the needs of customary & traditional harvesting for rural residents. Restricting harvest of abundant hatchery Coho.

PROPOSED BY: Klawock Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-056)
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PROPOSAL 130
5 AAC 01.710. Fishing seasons.
Modify fishing times and locations for subsistence salmon fishery in the Klawock River and Lake, as follows:

From July 10 through July 31 annually, sockeye salmon may be taken in the waters of Klawock Harbor enclosed by a line from the northernmost tip of Klawock Island at 55° 33.47' N. lat., 133°

05.96' W. long., the Klawock River, and Klawock Lake only from 12:01 am Monday until 11:59 pm Friday.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Harvest dates for wild stock sockeye on the Klawock River. Rural residents are having difficulties with annual harvest of sockeye in the Klawock River because of low wild stock escapement. Past sockeye harvesting started in June in the 1990's. By 2000's, effective harvesting occurred later in the harvest season. Having our starting and ending dates from Monday-Friday will also help with customary & traditional harvest of sockeye and increase food security. This will also relieve stress on initial run of wild stock sockeye in the Klawock River.

PROPOSED BY: Klawock Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-055)

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PROPOSAL 131

5 AAC 01.760. Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.

Modify fishing area and add hand purse seine as legal gear for the Redoubt Bay and Lake subsistence salmon fishery, as follows:

Allow the use of beach and hand purse seines within approximately 100 yards from the base of the falls when the projected total escapement is greater than 40,000 fish.

5 AAC 01.760 (e)The following provisions apply to the department issuance of community harvest permits for the Redoubt Bay community harvest area described as the waters of Redoubt Bay that are [SOUTH OF 56° 54.71' N. LAT. AND WEST OF 135° 18.88' W. LONG] **north (seaward) of a line approximately 100 yards from the base of the falls as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers.**

5 AAC 01.760 (e)(6) for the purposes of this section, the legal gear for harvest under a community harvest permit are a beach seine, **hand purse seine,** dip net, gaff, spear, and a hook and line attached to a rod or pole.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Large sockeye returns to Redoubt Lake over the last several years have triggered the issuance of a community harvest permit for the harvest of Redoubt sockeye. Unfortunately, three harvest attempts in the last two years has only netted two sockeye. The waters open to the use of a community harvest permit are at the mouth of the bay and a significant distance from the effluent waters of Redoubt Lake.

What would happen if nothing is changed? Continued underutilization of the resource due to lost harvest opportunities for the Sitka Tribe.

What are other solutions you considered? Why did you reject them? This is a unique situation that can only be addressed through the adjustment of legal fishing boundaries and the allowance of additional gear types.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Tribe of Alaska (HQ-F20-094)
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PROPOSAL 132
5 AAC 01.760. Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.
Prohibit the use of spears in Redoubt Bay and Lake subsistence fishery from June 21 to August 1, as follows:

No person may remain immersed in either salt or fresh water between the falls side of the snagging boundary and the weir at Redoubt Lake during subsistence harvest June 21—August 1.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Snorkelers with spear guns have been swimming in the small (South) pool below the falls during the Redoubt Lake sockeye run. They panic the fish, scattering them in the way a seal does when it comes in hunting, but for a much longer time, since the snorkelers are in there continuously for an hour or so. After a seal incursion, the fish do not resume moving up to the falls for half an hour. It's the same after a snorkeler swims in the pool, unless another snorkeler decides to enter. For an hour, fishing is impossible.

While snorkelers are in the pool, they ruin dipnetting because the fish are scattered and panicked; they ruin rod fishing both by panicking the fish and by interfering with casting; and they interfere with boats moving in to drop off dipnetters on the south shore. In short, snorkelers ruin fishing for every subsistence harvester.

As a matter of observation over five years, snorkelers do not catch fish either reliably or in any noticeable quantity. Swimming with a spear gun was not contemplated under the permitted gear technique of taking fish with a spear. In fact, a spear gun is not a permitted method of harvest, according to the subsistence definition of a spear: the projectile is not "operated by hand" any more than a crossbow bolt is.

Spear fishing with a spear gun can be dangerous to fishers, observers, and personnel monitoring the fishery. I have seen a subsistence fisher find himself on the wrong end of a cocked, loaded spear gun wielded by a clueless snorkeler.

PROPOSED BY: Floyd Tomkins (EF-F20-006)
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PROPOSAL 133
5 AAC 01.760. Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management Plan.
Allow the use of seine and gillnet gear in the waters of Redoubt Bay that are open to commercial salmon fishing, as follows:

5 AAC 01.760(b)(1)(B) is amended to read:

(B) by gaff, spear, dip net, **seine, gillnet,** and a hook and line attached to a rod or pole;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There are two conflicting regulations concerning the use of seine and gillnet gear in the Redoubt Bay subsistence salmon fishery**.** 5 AAC 01.720(a)(1) *Lawful gear and gear specifications* states that in Redoubt Bay, seine and gillnet gear may not be used in waters closed to commercial salmon fishing. This regulation suggests that these subsistence gear types may be used in Redoubt Bay up to the commercial regulatory closed waters listed in regulation. However, regulatory language in 5 AAC 01.760 *Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* does not allow for the use of seine and gillnet gear in the waters of Redoubt Bay south of 56°54.71′ N. lat., which includes waters open to commercial salmon fishing. The suggested regulatory language would provide clarity to department staff for the use of seine and gillnet gear in the Redoubt Bay subsistence salmon fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-155)

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Personal Use

PROPOSAL 134

5 AAC 77.699. Prohibitions.

Prohibit obstructing more than half of the stream, creek, or river when personal use fishing, as follows:

5 AAC 77.699 (d) Prohibitions – Cannot obstruct more than ½ of the fish way:

(d) A person cannot obstruct more than ½ of a stream, creek, river, bay, or fish passageway with a beach seine, gillnet, or other man-made object.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the past on Prince of Wales Island, personal use or subsistence salmon fishermen would obstruct large percentages of streams, rivers, or bays with personal use nets. There were no regulations preventing such actions. Concerned residents notified ADF&G commercial fish of the common practice and the lack of a regulation preventing a person from stretching a net across a stream. Other areas of the state have regulations preventing a person from obstructing more than half of a fish stream.

ADF&G commercial fish listed "A person cannot obstruct more than ½ of a stream, creek, river, bay, or fish passageway with a beach seine or gillnet" as a condition of a personal use /subsistence salmon permit. Adding this condition as a regulation to personal use and subsistence administration code will ensure in future years, the condition is not removed. Southeast Alaska has several small streams with small runs of desired salmon species. The only suggested change to the condition if passed into regulation is the addition of a man-made object. People have been observed using vessels such as a barge or sport boats in addition to their nets to capture the maximum amount of fish as they can.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-096)

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PROPOSAL 135

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Allow permits to be issued for the personal use taking of king and coho salmon, as follows:

5AAC 77.682(c) [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT ISSUE A PERMIT FOR THE TAKING OF KING OR COHO SALMON, BUT] **K**ing and coho salmon taken incidentally by gear operated under terms of a personal use permit for other salmon are legally taken and possessed for personal use purposes.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Delete the first phrase in this regulation that prohibits issuance of personal use permits for taking of King and Coho salmon. This regulation is contrary...

- to statute AS16.05.251(d) which requires "fair and reasonable" personal use fishing opportunities.
- to regulation 5AAC 77.001 which describes the intention of the personal use fishing category to provide "efficient" harvesting of fish for personal use by residents who are precluded from participating in subsistence fisheries.
- to 5AAC 77.001(b) which states a personal use fishery will be allowed when..... "in the broad public interest".
- to AG opinion which supports 5AAC 77.001 and AS16.05.251 and "Legislative History", which states the legislative intent to "require" the board to provide "fair and reasonable" opportunity for personal use fishing. See e.g. 1985 House J. 584-585, 920-921, 1230-1231(letters of intent) secs, 3. 11. ch.52 SLA 1986.
- to the intent and spirit of both the Legislature and the Board of Fisheries.
- Also, this regulation inhibits even considering king and coho for personal use fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Fox (EF-F20-026)

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PROPOSAL 136

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Include commercial harvested salmon to fish that may not be possessed on the same day sport or personal use salmon are taken, as follows:

No person may possess personal use-taken and sport taken **or commercial taken salmon** on the same day.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? To help prevent personal use fishing as a method of illegal commercial fishing.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Fox (EF-F20-024)

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PROPOSAL 137

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Prohibit personal use proxy permits at Sweetheart Creek, as follows:

The use of proxies for the sweetheart creek personal use fishery is not permitted.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? It is not uncommon for some participants in the Sweetheart Creek Personal Use fishery to fish a proxy along in addition to their personal limit. The issue is there are limited spots to successfully harvest fish along Sweetheart Creek. Fishery participants with proxy permits -- especially groups in possession of multiple proxy permits -- naturally take more time to fill their proxy permits and thereby limit access by other people wishing to participate in the fishery.

The limit of 25 for Sweetheart Creek was established arbitrarily using the justification of "fairness", as noted in the findings document 2016-281-FB.

Allowing the use of proxies is contrary to the justification of fairness used to set the limit of 25, as it makes it more difficult for some fishery participants to access productive spots along the creek if other participants are in those spots for extended periods of time while essentially filling two (2) limits.

I understand that some members of the community benefit from these proxy fish, but given there is no annual harvest limit, they could simply have people who would normally fish proxies for them return to the creek to harvest another limit.

PROPOSED BY: Nicholas Orr (EF-F20-029)

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PROPOSAL 138

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Create salmon personal use fisheries in marine waters of the Juneau Management Area, as follows:

Require ADF&G to issue personal use permits for "efficient" harvest of sockeye salmon in the marine waters of the Juneau Area.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently there is very little opportunity for personal use harvest of sockeye in the Juneau area. Statute (AS16.05.251) requires a fair and reasonable opportunity to personal use fish. Legislative intent is to provide fair and reasonable opportunity to personal use fish. The intent of the personal use fishing category is to provide "efficient" harvest by residents (5AAC 77.001).

Regulation 5AAC 77.682 says ...

(a) Salmon may only be taken under the authority of a personal use fishing permit.

(h) Salmon may be taken at any time except...(1) as may be restricted under the terms of a personal use fishing permit.

Yet; contrary to Legislative Intent, and the underlying intent of the creation of the personal use fishing category; ADF&G does not provide "fair and reasonable" or "efficient" harvest opportunities in the Juneau area.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Fox (EF-F20-054)

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PROPOSAL 139

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Modify where personal use fishing can occur in the Taku River to include all of Section 11-B and remove dates when the fishery can occur, as follows:

The proposed solution is to provide ADF&G management with the authority (under 5 AAC 77.682) to issue personal use permits for harvest of Taku River sockeye salmon using gillnet gear in marine waters of District 111. Permits would limit the time and area so as to eliminate conflicts with commercial fishing and address specific stock concerns. The simplest solution would be to repeal 5 AAC 77.682 (h)(3) [(3) IN THE TAKU RIVER DRAINAGE, SOCKEYE SALMON MAY BE TAKEN ONLY IN WATERS FROM THE TAKU RIVER LODGE UPSTREAM TO THE UNITED STATES/CANADA BORDER AND ONLY FROM JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 31.] and replace 5 AAC 77.682 (n)(1) with **sockeye salmon may be taken for personal use in section 11B under conditions specified in a household personal use permit** [SOCKEYE SALMON MAY NOT BE TAKEN FOR PERSONAL USE], and except that in the following waters sockeye salmon may be taken with the following possession and annual limits:.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The accessibility, availability, and quality of personal use sockeye salmon for Juneau fishermen in District 111 is severely limited, resulting in the inability of many Juneau residents to realize a fair and reasonable opportunity to harvest sockeye salmon, contributes to over-escapement of Taku River sockeye salmon, and reduces the justification for current catch-sharing agreements between Alaska and Canada. Personal use fishing is currently limited to the upper U. S. section of the Taku River (above Taku River Lodge to the Canadian Border) and Sweetheart Creek, a small creek approximately 37 miles from Juneau. The opportunity to harvest returning salmon is seriously limited by weather, equipment needs, and competition with other users. Unharvested fish in the marine waters contribute to over-escapement (2015-2017 escapements averaged 168% of the upper escapement goal), failure to achieve maximum sustained yield, and possible detrimental impacts on production. And the inability to harvest U. S. allowable catch limits (the commercial gillnet fishery only caught a 2015-2017 average of 53% of the U. S. allowable catch) could result in catch sharing agreements being reexamined in future U.S./Canada negotiations.

PROPOSED BY: John Clark (HQ-F20-042)

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PROPOSAL 140

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Add section 11-B as a personal use salmon fishing area when the area is closed to the commercial drift gillnet fishery, as follows:

(C) Taku Inlet - Commercial Fishing District 11B during periods closed to commercial fishing: the possession and annual limit are as specified in (f) of this section.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide Juneau area residents with a fair and reasonable opportunity to personal use fish for sockeye salmon. As required by statute AS16.05.251(d) and pursuant to the underlying purpose of the board's creation of the personal use fishing category to allow efficient harvesting of fish by individuals who were precluded from participating in subsistence fisheries. (ref. AG opinion dated 3/21/96 #663-96-0266).

PROPOSED BY: Mike Fox (EF-F20-021)

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PROPOSAL 141

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Add section 11-B as a personal use salmon fishing area when the area is closed to the commercial drift gillnet fishery, as follows:

5AAC 77.682(h) Salmon may be taken anytime except

(4) in commercial fishing district 11B, sockeye salmon may be taken only during periods closed to commercial fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide Juneau area residents a fair and reasonable opportunity to personal use fish for sockeye salmon. And, to provide a personal use sockeye fishery in marine waters.

Juneau Residents are precluded from Federal subsistence fisheries, and the State has designated Juneau area waters as non-subsistence.

5AAC 77.001 states the intent of the personal use category is to provide "efficient" harvesting by residents precluded from subsistence fisheries. AS16.05.251(d) requires "fair and reasonable" personal use opportunities. Legislative Intent is to "require" the Board of Fish to provide "fair and reasonable" opportunity for personal use fishing. See e.g. 1985 House J.584-585, 920-921, 1230-1231 (letters of intent) secs, 3. 11. ch.52 SLA 1986.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Fox (EF-F20-027)

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PROPOSAL 142

5 AAC 77.678. Personal use smelt fishery.

Establish bag and possession limits and lawful gear for smelt fishing in the Ketchikan area, as follows:

5 AAC 77.678 Smelt may be taken for personal use at any time **in Ketchikan District**

(1) The daily and possession limit is 50 pounds per individual

(2) Allowed gear: dip nets and throw nets

Proxy fishing allowed on behalf of qualified fishing permit holders

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Firstly, the Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government (KIC) strongly supports the Customary and Traditional Use designation for ooligan on the Unuk River. Secondly, KIC does not support a commercial ooligan fishery in Ketchikan Management Area and would like it stricken from the fishing regulations. Thirdly, KIC supports the following proposal that would support limited access to harvestable ooligan resources until such a time as native fishing rights are fully and adequately addressed.

The Department of Fish and Game has been closing the eulachon (ooligan) fishery on the Unuk River and elsewhere in Ketchikan District since 2005. This has been a customary and traditional use area for indigenous people in the region and a source of subsistence and trade. Ooligan as the native peoples call this small anadromous fish have been eaten fresh smoked and been converted to ooligan grease. This cultural practice has been all but eliminated for over a decade and elders have been deprived of this subsistence resource and young people have not been exposed to harvesting, eating and preparing ooligan an important part of their cultural heritage. The eulachon population levels on the Unuk River and elsewhere in SE Alaska are not accurately known due to insufficient monitoring. Allowing fishing with adequate harvest reporting would provide additional information not currently being collected on population trends, and can be used to adaptively manage the fishery based on creel census and the additional catch per unit effort information rather than taking the very conservation approach of annually closing the fishery altogether. If ooligan are present in numbers that warrant the effort and expense of harvesting small amounts for personal use the ADFG should allow for this culturally significant fishery. Due to a very narrow harvest window coupled with the challenges of getting to the Unuk River and other known spawning areas; the unpredictability of eulachon timing; and variation in spawning locations it is expected any personal-use harvest impacts would be minimal, even without a bag limit. With the addition of a bag limit coupled with the traditional ecological knowledge and reverence for fisheries resource possessed by tribal fisherman whom are the primary user of this resources, population levels should not be significantly impacted. In addition, fish found in isolated tide pools can and should be collected, to avoid wanton waste of trapped fish. Also, a liberal proxy fishing policy should be allowed since most tribal members in the region do not have the ability to access the ooligan resources due to distance from population centers. There is a high cost of travel associated with fishing for ooligan in locations such as the Unuk River; a small bag limit makes such travel unfeasible.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Indian Community (HQ-F20-053)

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Sport

PROPOSAL 143

5 AAC 47.XXX. New section.

Require inseason reporting of nonresident sport fish harvest, as follows:

All non-resident sport fishermen in the Southeast and Yakutat Areas (fresh and saltwater) shall complete and submit a logbook of all fish and shellfish harvested. Harvest shall be documented in

the logbook before leaving each fishing site. Logbooks shall be returned to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game by December 31 (or whatever date is appropriate) each year.

It is recommended that this regulation be evaluated after 6 years of harvest data has been gathered and analyzed to determine if the perceived increase in competition or use exists. If there are no documented problems then the regulation should be removed.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (Council) believes that the harvest of fish by non-resident sport anglers has increased in the Southeast and Yakutat Areas, while subsistence users have been subject to increasing regulation and restrictions and are experiencing a more difficult time competing for and harvesting fish and shellfish.

The only method to account for non-resident sport harvest is by a statewide mail survey. Other than major sport fisheries, response rates are too low to accurately assess if non-resident harvest is contributing to localized depletion of resources or if the competition with subsistence users is increasing.

The Council also believes that unguided non-resident sport fishermen are taking multiple daily harvest limits. The Council believes harvest limits for unguided non-residents are not enforced and are unaccounted, since non-resident unguided fishermen do not have to record their harvest, except for species with an annual limit, before leaving the fishing site; unlike subsistence fishermen.

Presently, recording species with an annual limit is only an enforcement tool. It does not contribute to harvest accounting since there is no requirement to submit the harvest record to ADF&G.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F20-111)
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PROPOSAL 144
5 AAC 47.XXX. New section.
Establish a logbook program for rental vessels used in Southeast Alaska sport fisheries, as follows:

We propose the Board of Fisheries enact a new regulation (provided below) that will require catch records of all rented recreational vessels that engage in sportfishing activities. We are specifically proposing Halibut catch data be gathered with this new regulation, but we support catch data gathering for any other species that would provide valuable management information to the Department. We also feel it is vital to require the Department to share any data gathered under this new regulation with the appropriate departments of the IPHC, NPFMC and NOAA on an annual basis.

5 AAC 47.XXX New Section: Sport fishing **rental vessel angler and operator** reporting requirements.
(a) A sport fishing **rental vessel angler and/or operator** shall obtain and complete a State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Saltwater **rental vessel operator and angler** Logbook and Vessel Registration, adopted by reference if operating in salt water;

(b) A logbook requires information necessary for the management and conservation of fishery resources and regulation of the **rental vessel** sport fishing industry, including:

(1) the division of motor vehicles boat registration number, issued under 2 AAC 70, or United States Coast Guard documentation number, of the vessels that are used to provide sport fishing **rental vessel** services in salt water;

(2) the locations where the sport fishing **rental vessel** services were provided;

(3) the effort, catch, and harvest of sport fish by persons who are clients, of a business that conducts sport fishing **rental vessel s**ervices;

(4) the name, address, telephone number and residency status of each **rental vessel angler**; and (5) any other information the department determines is necessary for the management and conservation of the fishery resource or the regulation of the **rental vessel** sport fishing industry.

(c) A **rental vessel operator and/or a rental vessel angler shall** complete a logbook in the manner and at the location specified in the logbook and present the logbook for inspection as required in 5 AAC 75.075.

(d) A person may not make a false entry in the logbook required in (a) of this section.

(e) The operator of a business that rents a vessel covered by this section is responsible for reporting logbook information and returning the completed logbook of each sport fishing **rental vessel angler** by the business to the department in the manner and time frame specified in the logbook.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In recent years, there has been a large increase in the number of businesses in southeast Alaska that rent sportfishing vessels to primarily non-residents, who utilize this arrangement to qualify for more liberal "non-guided" bag limits for halibut. The Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee has received estimates that between 300 and 500 of these rental vessels are now operating in southeast Alaska. We believe these anglers, that are part of this new and growing user group, are responsible for a very significant harvest of sportfish (specifically halibut) that is currently not being taken into account by the IPHC, NPFMC, NOAA or the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (the Department) in their resource management responsibilities. There is currently no log keeping requirement for these vessels/anglers and, since the majority of these rented vessels operate from private docks or remote lodges, their harvest data is not captured by the Department's creel census efforts. We realize that halibut are managed by the IPHC, NPFMC and NOAA versus the state. We also realize that the federal government regulates "guided" versus "non-guided" anglers separately whereas the state routinely establishes different sport fishing bag limits for "residents" versus "non-residents". This definitely creates some potential jurisdictional issues for what we want to accomplish which is "quantify the harvest of sport fish by non-resident anglers fishing from rented vessels. While the Department may or may not have the authority to regulate catch of halibut, we believe they do have the authority to require catch reporting, similar to the reporting requirements for Sport Fishing guide and operators (5 AAC 75.076). The NPFMC took up this topic in 2017, 2018 and 2019 and, while agreeing on the need to get information on how many un-guided rental vessels are in operation and how many Halibut they are harvesting, they have so far failed to take any action. We respectfully submit that it is time for the Board of Fisheries to take a leadership role in this matter and establish new regulations to start gathering the needed management data.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-083)

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PROPOSAL 145

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area. and 5 AAC 47.022. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Establish nonresident bag, possession, and annual limits for coho and sockeye salmon in the fresh and salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

5 AAC 47.020:

. . . the following are the general provisions for the seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits that apply to sport fishing for finfish and shellfish in the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area:

(1) king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; must be 28 inches or greater in length; the commissioner shall establish bag, possession, and annual limits, by emergency order, as specified in 5 AAC 47.055; a harvest record is required for a nonresident as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

(2) Coho salmon: may be taken from January 1–December 31 as follows:

(A) resident: 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish

(B) nonresident: 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of four fish; possession limit of eight fish; and an annual limit of sixteen fish; a harvest record is required for a nonresident as specified in 5 AAC 75.006

(3) sockeye salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31 as follows:

(A) resident: 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish

(B) nonresident: 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of four fish; possession limit of eight fish; and an annual limit of sixteen fish; a harvest record is required for a nonresident as specified in 5 AAC 75.006

(4) salmon**, other than king salmon, coho salmon, and sockeye salmon:** may be taken from January 1 - December 31; no annual limit; no size limit; bag and possession limits, as follows:

(A) 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish per species; possession limit of 12 fish per species;

5 AAC 47.022:

… this section contains the general provisions for the seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the fresh waters in Southeast Alaska Area.

(b) In the fresh waters east of the longitude of Cape Fairweather:

(1) king salmon: sport fishing for king salmon is closed;

(2) coho salmon: may be taken from January 1 –December 31 as follows:

(A) resident:

(i) 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish;

(ii) Less than 16 inches in length: bag and possession limit of 10 fish in

combination;

(B) nonresident:

(i) bag limit of four fish; possession limit of eight fish; and an annual limit of sixteen fish; a harvest record is required for a nonresident as specified in 5 AAC 75.006

(3) sockeye salmon: may be taken from January 1-December 31 as follows:

(A) resident:

(i) 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish;

(ii) Less than 16 inches in length; bag and possession limit of 10 fish in combination;

(B) nonresident: bag limit of four fish; possession limit of eight fish; and an annual limit of sixteen fish; a harvest record is required for a nonresident as specified in 5 AAC 75.006

(4) salmon**, other than king, coho, and sockeye salmon:** may be taken from January 1-December 31; no annual limit, no size limit; bag and possession limits, as follows:

(A) 16 inches or greater in length; bag limit of six fish per species; possession limit of 12 fish per species;

(B) less than 16 inches in length; bag and possession limit of 10 fish in combination;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Council recognizes that coho and sockeye salmon are the primary species targeted by subsistence users. Under the current general regulations, non-resident sport fisherman may take six coho and sockeye salmon per day, every day of the season. In contrast, an entire household of subsistence users typically may only harvest an annual limit of 20-50 fish from each of a limited number of sites. The proposed changes would put a ceiling on the annual harvest of each species by non-residents that is roughly comparable to the limits placed on subsistence households. The Council believes that the proposed limits on non-resident harvest are adequate to allow ample sport fishing opportunity for visitors, while preventing excessive non-resident sport harvest of species important to subsistence users.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F20-109)

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PROPOSAL 146

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Establish nonresident bag and possession limits for coho, sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

Salt water
Coho, chum, pink, and sockeye salmon
16 inches or longer: 5 of each species per day, 10 of each species in possession for nonresidents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government believes it is necessary to take action to prioritize the needs of tribal citizens that have existed in southeast Alaska since time immemorial. Now more than ever

subsistence and personal use fishermen need these resources to sustain themselves in the face of financial instability. One way to help insure the needs of tribal citizens are met is to reduce the harvest of coho, chum, pink, and sockeye salmon by nonresident sports fishermen.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Indian Community (HQ-F20-048)
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PROPOSAL 147
5 AAC 47.022. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Establish nonresident bag and possession limits for coho salmon in the fresh waters east of the longitude of Cape Fairweather, as follows:

Freshwater
Coho salmon
Between Cape Fairweather and Dixon Entrance
16 inches or longer: 5 of each species per day, 10 of each species in possession for nonresidents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government believes it is necessary to take action to prioritize the needs of tribal citizens that have existed in southeast Alaska since time immemorial. Now more than ever subsistence and personal use fishermen need these resources to sustain themselves in the face of financial instability. One way to help insure the needs of tribal citizens are met is to reduce the harvest of coho salmon by nonresident sports fishermen.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Indian Community (HQ-F20-049)
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PROPOSAL 148
5 AAC 47.022. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Establish nonresident bag and possession limits for sockeye, chum, and pink salmon in fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

Freshwater
Chum, pink, and sockeye salmon
16 inches or longer: 5 of each species per day, 10 of each species in possession for nonresidents.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Ketchikan Indian Community Tribal Government believes it is necessary to take action to prioritize the needs of tribal citizens that have existed in southeast Alaska since time immemorial. Now more than ever subsistence and personal use fishermen need these resources to sustain themselves in the face of financial instability. One way to help insure the needs of tribal citizens are met is to reduce the harvest of coho, chum, pink, and sockeye salmon by nonresident sports fishermen.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Indian Community (HQ-F20-050)
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PROPOSAL 149

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Reduce saltwater coho salmon bag and possession limit in Puget Cove to two fish, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(b)(5) is added:

(b) in the Yakutat vicinity;

(5) in all waters of Puget Cove, shoreward of the boundary defined by a line between 59°33'52.79"N lat. 139° 43'51.65"W long., and 59°33'49.92"N lat. 139°42'56.06"W long., the bag and possession limit for coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length is two fish.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Coho salmon staging in the nearshore salt waters of the Puget Cove lagoon area experience high levels of sport fishing pressure. This area is easily accessible from the Yakutat road system via several trails and is also adjacent to a sport fishing lodge and the Yakutat small boat harbor. Anglers targeting coho salmon in Puget Cove fish from the shoreline and from small boats.

Current coho salmon sport fishing regulations for this area are the general Southeast saltwater bag and possession limits of six fish per day, twelve in possession. A reduction of the bag and possession limit to two coho salmon would align sport fishing regulations in this lagoon area with other similar lagoons in the Yakutat area (Village Lagoon and Ankau Lagoon) that are easily accessible and receive higher levels of sport fishing pressure.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-163)
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PROPOSAL 150

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Repeal rainbow trout size limits in Crystal, Glacier, and Moraine lakes, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023(e)(1)(C) is amended to read:

(C) in [GLACIER LAKE, MORAINE LAKE, AND] Montana Creek, including McGinnis Creek, only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

and,

5 AAC 47.023(e)(1)(N) is added to read:

(N) in Crystal Lake, Glacier Lake and Moraine Lake,

(i) the bag and possession limit for rainbow trout is five fish; no size limit;

(ii) the bag and possession limit for cutthroat trout is two fish; must be no less than 14 inches and no greater than 22 inches.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

In 2012 the department, in cooperation with the DIPAC hatchery, began stocking catchable-sized king salmon in Crystal, Glacier and Moraine lakes to provide additional sport fishing opportunity on the Juneau road system. However, in 2019 the stocking was changed to catchable sterile triploid rainbow trout ranging in size from 8 to 10 inches. In order to provide additional harvest opportunity for these stocked rainbow trout the Juneau area roadside length limit of 14 inch minimum and 22 inch maximum needs to be removed for rainbow trout in these lakes.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-160)
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PROPOSAL 151
5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for season, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Prohibit guided sport fishing on the Salmon River near Gustavus, as follows:

Stop guided fishing on the Salmon River in Gustavus.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I feel there needs to be a stop put on guided fishing on the Salmon River in Gustavus Alaska.

With the last numbers counted being 2000 in 2010 on Coho it doesn't seem to have the numbers to sustain impact like that of guided sport fishing! There has been a huge increase in sport fisherman being guided on the Salmon River.in the past few years. I feel the Salmon River in Gustavus is a local subsistence fishery!

PROPOSED BY: Steve Petty (EF-F20-128)
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PROPOSAL 152
5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for season, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Close sport fishing in a section of 108 Creek, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023(k)(1)(C) In 108 Creek, sport fishing is closed 300 feet upstream of the upper falls to 300 feet downstream of the lower falls.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Whale Pass have seen a greater presence of un-guided non-resident sport fishing anglers fishing 108 Creek at the falls. These anglers will fish and catch a limit of salmon. They will continue to fish and practice catch and release for the remainder of the day. The anglers do not take into account the increased rate of mortality on the fish which are attempting to navigate up the falls to the spawning grounds. Closing a small area at the falls will decrease the morality of the fish attempting to navigate their way upstream. Sport fishermen flood the area below the falls because the salmon are pooled up prior to them attempting to navigate their way up the falls. With closing the area, sport fishermen still have plenty of areas to fish 108 Creek.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-087)
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PROPOSAL 153
5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for season, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Close sport fishing in a section of Log Jam Creek, as follows:

Special provisions for fresh waters – Log Jam

5 AAC 47.023(k)(8)(E) In Log Jam Creek, sport fishing is closed 300 feet upstream of the upper falls to 300 feet downstream of the lower falls.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Coffman Cove have seen a greater presence of un-guided non-resident sport fishing anglers fishing at Log Jam Creek at the falls. These anglers will fish and catch a limit of salmon. They will continue to fish and practice catch and release for the remainder of the day. The anglers do not take in account of the rate of increased mortality on the fish which are attempting to navigate up the falls to the spawning grounds. Closing a small area at the falls will decrease the morality of the fish attempting to navigate their way upstream. Sport fishermen flood the area below the falls because the salmon are pooled up prior to them attempting to navigate their way up the falls. With closing the area, sport fishermen still have plenty of areas to fish Log Jam creek.

PROPOSED BY: The East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-088)
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PROPOSAL 154
5 AAC 47.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish.
Allow the use of bow and arrow in Southeast Alaska sport fisheries, as follows:

Make bow fishing legal in all waters.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Bow fishing. There are no regulations on it yet which makes it illegal. I personally believe if you can snag then bow fishing is a must. It is more ethical and almost no chance of an injured fish getting away.

PROPOSED BY: George Lewis (EF-F20-002)
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PROPOSAL 155
5 AAC 47.036. Prohibitions.
Prohibit the removal of salmon from the water when nonretention regulations apply and prohibit the use of a multiple hook in Southeast Alaska sport fisheries, as follows:

1. It is prohibited to remove from either freshwater or saltwater a salmon for unhooking, if it is unlawful to retain such a salmon by a sport fisher. (In simple terms this prohibits removing a salmon from the water for dehooking and releasing; it reduces handling stress, therefore).
2. **It is prohibited to use multiple hooks when sport fishing for any species of fish in either freshwater or saltwater, where a multiple hook is one with two or more points with or without barbs extending from a common shaft.** (In simple terms this makes treble hooks illegal throughout Southeast Alaska for all sportfishing).

Restrictions 1 and 2 go together because it is so difficult to unhook a treble-hooked shaker in the water if hooked by two or more barbs of a treble hook. Doing so with a single hook is easy with a commonly used, relatively undamaging method. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife enforces precisely these two regulations to reduce hooking and handling mortality of released salmon, and describes the undamaging release technique in easy detail in their regulation pamphlets.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The critical status of Chinook Salmon that contribute to Southeast Alaska sport, commercial, and subsistence fisheries; specifically the incidental mortality rate of Chinook Salmon that must be legally released from sport gear due to non-retention or size limit restrictions. These two related restrictions would reduce that incidental mortality rate.

PROPOSED BY: Stephen Mathews (EF-F20-025)
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Herring

PROPOSAL 156

5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.
Modify harvest rate control rule for Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery, as follows:

Our recommended solution is to implement the herring harvest control rule that is used in all areas of Southeast Alaska except Sitka Sound. The proposed action would provide consistency in the management and regulation of herring populations throughout Southeast Alaska.

5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area
(g) The guideline harvest level for the herring sac roe fishery in Sections 13-A and 13-B shall be established by the department and will be a harvest rate percentage that is not less than **10**[12] percent, not more than 20 percent, and within that range shall be determined by the following formula: Harvest Rate Percentage = **8 + 2** [2 + 8] (Spawning Biomass (in tons)/20,000). The fishery will not be conducted if spawning biomass of is less than 25,000 tons.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Sitka Tribe of Alaska proposes changing the harvest control rule (HCR) for Sitka Sound herring to the same HCR that is used for herring throughout Southeast Alaska (SEAK). The SEAK HCR begins with a 10% harvest rate when the population is forecasted to reach the harvest threshold (currently 25,000 tons in Sitka Sound), then harvest rate is allowed to gradually increase until reaching the maximum 20% harvest rate when the population is six times greater than the harvest threshold, i.e., 150,000

tons. In 2019, the herring biomass was approximately 131,000 tons, and in 2020 the forecast biomass is 212,000 tons, which is well above 6X the threshold. In contrast to the SEAK HCR, the Sitka Sound HCR is much more aggressive and does not support the needs of subsistence users and many marine species. The Sitka Sound HCR begins with a 12% harvest rate when the population is forecasted to reach the harvest threshold (25,000 tons), then the harvest rate increases rapidly until reaching 20% at only 45,000 tons. During the past 20 years, the guideline harvest rate in Sitka Sound is always at or very close to the 20% maximum. This high harvest rate guideline stems in part from reliance on an average unfished biomass value that was developed from data collected -28 to 50 years ago (Carlile 1998). Recent biomass data indicate this critical management value is too low and contributes to overharvest of a forage fish that is also needed for food by subsistence users and many socially and economically important marine species. Subsistence users and marine species require much higher abundances of herring than a commercial purse seine fleet in order to meet their needs. Furthermore, a 20% annual commercial harvest rate on herring that return to spawn over many years leads to a very high lifetime harvest rate on each herring year class in Sitka Sound.

What would happen if nothing is changed?
Continued use of the existing Sitka Sound HCR is inconsistent with management of herring in all other regions of SEAK, and it would continue to inhibit population growth of herring and inhibit Alaskan subsistence users from meeting their needs (Shelton et al. 2014). The status quo would also reduce the ability of Sitka Sound herring to support the marine ecosystem, including depressed Chinook salmon and Pacific cod, both of whom rely upon herring for food. Furthermore, only a small fraction of the commercially caught herring (sac roe in females) are consumed by humans (e.g., in Japan not Alaska); more than ~90% of the commercially-caught herring becomes fish meal that is used to support salmon farms that compete with Alaska salmon fishermen. The content management approach (HCR) to maximize commercial harvests of Sitka Sound herring is counterproductive to the needs of the vast majority of Alaskans.

What are other solutions you considered? Why did you reject them?
This proposed action is less drastic than a moratorium of the commercial fishery or a significantly reduced maximum annual harvest rate (10%), which has been considered in British Columbia.

References
Carlile, D. W. 1998. Estimation and evaluation of a harvest threshold for management of the Sitka herring sac roe fishery based on a percentage of average unfished biomass. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Commercial Fisheries Regional Information Report 1198-18, Juneau.

Shelton, A.O., Samhouri, J.F., Stier, A.C. & Levin, P.S. 2014. Assessing trade-offs to inform ecosystem-based fisheries management of forage fish. Sci. Rep. 4, 711 O;
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PROPOSED BY: Sitka Tribe of Alaska (HQ-F20-091)
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PROPOSAL 157
5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.

Modify harvest rate for Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery based on forecasted age structure, as follows:

Our recommended solution involves a slight modification of the existing harvest formula in Sitka Sound to reduce risk of harvesting more than 20% of the larger, older component of the population that is selectively harvested by the commercial fishery. This modification could be easily applied to the SEAK herring harvest formula, if it were to be adopted in Sitka Sound.

5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area
(g) The guideline harvest level for the herring sac roe fishery in Sections 13-A and 13-B **shall consider the preseason age structure as a means to prevent exceeding the 20% maximum harvest rate when targeting older herring. The guideline harvest level** shall be established by the department and will be a harvest rate percentage that is not less than **12** percent, not more than 20 percent **on each age group (i.e., "old" and "young" herring)**, and within that range shall be determined by the following **formulas** [FORMULA]:

GHLold fish = (% Old fish) * (Spawning Biomass) * (2 + 8 (Spawning Biomass/20,000))
GHLyoung fish = 0.5 *(%Young fish)* (Spawning Biomass)* (2 + 8 (Spawning Biomass/20,000))
Total GHL = GHLold fish+ GHLyoung fish

[HARVEST RATE PERCENTAGE = 2 + 8 (SPAWNING BIOMASS (IN TONS)/20,000).]

"Old fish" is defined as herring that are age-5 and older; "young fish" is defined as age-3 and age-4 herring. The selectivity correction factor (0.5) should be allowed to change in accordance with future selectivity patterns. The fishery will not be conducted if spawning biomass is less than 25,000 tons.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Many herring captured by commercial purse seines in Sitka Sound are small/young fish that do not meet market demands. Therefore, the sac roe fishery conducts test fisheries and targets the largest, oldest, most fecund herring in the population. Regulations currently allow the harvest rate on specific age components to exceed 20% (i.e., high-grading) as long as the overall harvest rate is 20% or less. Theoretically, under current regulations, the entire guideline harvest level (GHL), or even 100% of the older population, could be taken with the largest most fecund herring leaving few large fish to spawn, if the fishery was efficient when selectively harvesting large herring. This is an obvious, unintended deficiency in the current regulation.

Fortunately, selectivity for larger older herring is not perfect, and analysis of the ADFG ASA model data shows that the harvest rate on age 5+ "old" herring is currently 2X that of younger herring (age 3-4) (Figure 1). In other words, only -0.5 "young" herring are harvested relative to each "old" herring (please see formula below). To avoid overharvest of the biologically imp011ant old, large females as well as to minimize the harvest of young fish that are not economically desirable, the guideline harvest level should consider the proportion of the population that meets market demands and not the entire population. Furthermore, the current maximum allowed harvest rate on herring (20%) should not be exceeded when targeting the larger, more biologically

productive component of the herring population. Our straightforward adjustment to the existing formula to set the guideline harvest level addresses this issue by accounting for the observed (modeled) selectivity of the commercial fishery while setting the maximum annual harvest rate on "old" herring at 20%.

In simple terms, this proposal provides a management tool that reduces the risk of harvesting more than 20% of the larger, older herring that are targeted by the commercial fishery.

What would happen if nothing is changed?
The negative consequences of high-grading the oldest, largest, most fecund females from a population is well known. These large, old fish contribute disproportionately more to future herring generations (Barneche et al. 2018) and they appear to guide younger herring back to suitable spawning areas (MacCall et al. 2018). Furthermore, recent evidence in Sitka Sound supports the "Go with Older Fish" hypothesis that is recognized in both western science and traditional ecological knowledge. For example, in 2019 and 2020 when the herring population was dominated by young fish (age 3 and age 4), few herring spawned in the "core" area where most herring have spawned in recent decades.

If nothing is changed, the sac roe seine fishery would be legally permitted to high-grade fish in a manner detrimental to the population structure and future herring generations. Existing regulations allow the harvest rate on specific age components to exceed 20% (i.e., high-grading) as long as the overall harvest rate is 20% or less. A truncated age structure with fewer experienced spawning adults would likely continue to result in erratic spawn, reduced future production, and the inability of subsistence harvesters to meet their needs.

What are other solutions you considered? Why did you reject them?
This is a less drastic action than a moratorium of the commercial fishery or a significantly reduced maximum annual harvest rate (10%), which has been considered in British Columbia. It is noteworthy that the current annual 20% maximum harvest rate equates to a much higher harvest rate over the life time of each herring year class because herring are harvested over many years.

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PROPOSED BY: Sitka Tribe of Alaska (HQ-F20-092)
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PROPOSAL 158
5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.

Incorporate forecasted age structure into Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery spawning biomass threshold, as follows:

Managers must ensure there are sufficient old and large fish in the population to lead younger fish to appropriate spawning grow1ds and increase the potential for successful recruitment to the population.

5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area
(g) The guideline harvest level for the herring sac roe fishery in Sections 13-A and 13-B shall be established by the department and will be a harvest rate percentage that is not less than 12 percent, not more than 20 percent and within that range shall be determined by the following formula: Harvest Rate Percentage = 2 + 8 (Spawning Biomass (in tons) / 20,000). The fishery will not be conducted if spawning biomass of is less than 25,000 tons **or the proportion of fish age 5 and older is less than or equal to 0.20, as determined by the pre-season bait fishery or test fishing completed by February 28th in District 13-B.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The oldest, largest herring are biologically the most important herring in the population. Older fish lead younger, inexperienced fish to appropriate spawning grounds (MacCall et al. 2018). Older, larger fish have relatively more fecundity and more well-provisioned eggs that are more likely to survive (Hixon et al. 2014; Barneche et al. 2018). A population of older, larger fish will have much greater fecundity and reproductive success than an equivalent biomass of younger, smaller fish (Venturelli et al. 2009).

Currently, many herring captured by the Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery are young and small and do not meet market demands. Consequently, the Sitka Sound sac roe herring fishery consistently targets and harvests the oldest, largest, most fecund females in the population. These are the very fish we should protect to ensure the long-term health of the population. Industrial fishing pressure has been shown to lead to reduced size and truncated age structure in populations (Barnett et al. 2017) and traditional ecological knowledge indicates that the size and age structure of Sitka Sound herring has indeed been truncated since the advent of reduction fisheries in the 1800s. While a 20% harvest rate may not seem high to some, the compounding effects of a harvest of at least 20% annually on a relatively long-lived fish like a herring are quite large. Without older, larger fish in the population, spatiotemporal distribution of spawn has shifted and resulted in the inability of subsistence harvesters to meet their needs.

This proposal is a simple alteration to the current management threshold to ensure there is a minimum of relatively older fish in the population to lead younger fish to better spawning grounds and increase reproductive success of the population. When there aren't enough old fish in the population, fishing should not occur as a means to prevent further decline of these most important large herring.

What would happen if nothing is changed?
Continued fishing pressure on the oldest, largest fish will exacerbate size and age structure truncation issues in the Sitka Sound herring population. The frequency of abnormal spawning distribution (in terms of space and time) will likely increase and subsistence harvesters will be less likely to meet their needs.

What are other solutions you considered? Why did you reject them?
This is a less drastic action than a moratorium of the commercial fishery. This is also less drastic than setting higher thresholds using older age classes that would have likely better reflected the pristine age structure.

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PROPOSED BY: Sitka Tribe of Alaska (HQ-F20-093)
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PROPOSAL 159
5 AAC 27.195. Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.
Repeal this regulation related to management of the commercial sac roe herring fishery in Sitka Sound, as follows:

The Board should repeal 5 AAC 27.195. Other regulation, including 5 AAC 27.160(g) and 27.190 establish clear and sufficient guidance to the department for management of the commercial sac roe fishery and to assure reasonable subsistence opportunity. Reasonable subsistence opportunity was also enhanced with the biomass threshold increase of 5,000 tons (2 million pounds) and establishment of the "core area" closure of 2012 and then substantially increased again in 2018. In short, 5 AAC 27.195 is not necessary for the department to manage the two fisheries and, if interpreted as the Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA) contends, will totally compromise commercial sac roe fishery in Sitka Sound.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The board enacted 5 AAC 27.195 in 2002 in an effort to provide direction to the department regarding management of the

commercial herring sac roe and subsistence herring egg fisheries in Sitka Sound. This regulation, which the Board has not revisited since 2002, is outdated, ambiguous and subject to misinterpretation. Problems include (but are not limited to): 1) How the regulation should be applied in light of subsequent action by the Board to raise the recommended biomass of 20,000 tons by 25% (5,000 tons) to 25,000 tons as a buffer for subsistence. Also, in 2012, the board designated a "core area" closed to commercial sac roe fishing as the area most important for subsistence harvest of roe on branches; and (2) whether the regulation prohibits the department from opening the sac roe fishery prior to the onset of the herring spawn as argued by STA in a lawsuit against the Board and the department. STA contends that in adopting 5 AAC 27.195, the Board intended that the department delay opening the commercial fishery until enough herring have spawned to allow a determination that the subsistence harvest will be sufficient in both quantity and quality to meet subsistence needs. (Determination of quality and quantity is problematic and impossible to accomplish in-season). Delaying the commercial fishery as STA alleges that this regulation requires, would clearly eliminate the commercial sac roe fishery and cannot be the Board's intent when the regulation was adopted.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (HQ-F20-106)

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PROPOSAL 160

5 AAC 27.150. Waters closed to herring fishing in Southeastern Alaska Area.

Reduce closed waters in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery, as follows:

Returning to the 'core area' established in 2012 would still allow for a designated subsistence harvest area while reversing the unnecessary losses of commercial fishing access to available resources. From 2012 until 2018, the regulation 5 AAC 27.150 (7) stated that closed waters would be:

"District 13, in the waters north and west of the Eliason Harbor breakwater and Makhnati Island Causeway from the westernmost tip of Makhnati Island to the easternmost point on Bieli Rock to the southernmost tip of Gagarin Island to a point on the eastern shore of Crow Island at 56 degrees 06.43' N. lat., 135 degrees 28.27' W long. To a point on the western shore of Middle Island at 57 degrees 06.41' N. lat., 135 degrees 28.11 W. long. To a point on the southeastern shore of Middle Island at 57 degrees 05.56' N. lat., 135 degrees 26.23'W. long to the green navigation marker northeast of Kasiana Island, to the Baranof Island shore at 57 degrees 05.26' N. lat, 135 degrees 22.95' w. long."

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Waters closed to the commercial sac roe fishery in District 13 have been increased three times in the last ten years under the guise of increasing reasonable subsistence harvest opportunity based on purported failure of subsistence harvesters to reach the artificially inflated 136,000 to 227,000 pound 'Amount Necessary for Subsistence'. The commercial sac roe fishery has lost access to areas that had previously yielded substantial portions of the harvest while the closures have had little or no effect on reasonable harvest opportunity or participation of subsistence users. In 2018, the 'core' area established in 2012 was increased with no demonstrated benefits to subsistence users. Returning

to the 'core area' established in 2012 would still allow for a designated subsistence harvest area while reversing the unnecessary losses of commercial fishing access to available resources.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (HQ-F20-105)
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PROPOSAL 161
5 AAC 01.730. Subsistence fishing permits.
Require a subsistence fishing permit to harvest herring roe on branches in the Sitka Sound area, as follows:

Require a permit or registration for participation in the subsistence harvest under 5AAC 01.716 that can assist the department in managing the fishery and ensuring that subsistence harvesters have 'reasonable opportunity' to harvest herring eggs in the Sitka Sound Area.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Many if not most of the subsistence fisheries in SE Alaska require a permit or registration in order to participate. The Sitka Sound subsistence fishery for herring eggs on branches and kelp does not have that requirement despite the need for accurate and timely information on harvest and participation. Present monitoring is done using a survey and interview system undertaken in part by some who have an interest in particular outcomes. While the department's Subsistence Division participates in the process, the reports are not released in a timely manner and could benefit from a permit data collection program. Given the Sitka Tribe of Alaska lawsuit against the State of Alaska and Board of Fish, there is an even greater need for accurate information related to subsistence use of the Sitka sound herring resource. The Division of Subsistence has experienced significant reductions in budget that compromise the division's capability to collect and compile data. A permit system for collecting data would assist the department in gathering more robust data and more timely reporting.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (HQ-F20-108)
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PROPOSAL 162
5 AAC 01.730. Subsistence fishing permits.
Increase the possession limit for subsistence spawn-on-kelp harvest, as follows:

(g) When issuing a herring spawn-on-kelp subsistence fishing permit, the department may specify on the permit the times and locations for harvesting and the species of kelp that may be taken. The annual possession limit for herring spawn on kelp is [32] **75** pounds for an individual or [158] **325** pounds for a household of two or more persons. [THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE AN ADDITIONAL PERMIT FOR HERRING SPAWN ON KELP ABOVE THE ANNUAL POSSESSION LIMIT IF HARVESTABLE SURPLUSES OF HERRING SPAWN ON KELP ARE AVAILABLE.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current possession limits of herring roe-on-kelp of 32 lbs per individual or 158 lbs per household are too low for efficient

harvesting and too precise to be easily measured in the field. The current regulations allow for an annual harvest of twice the possession limit, but the permit holder must return to the ADF&G office after harvesting their first possession limit to renew their permit. This necessitates two fishing trips thus burning twice the fuel and taking twice the time. If the ADF&G office is closed for the weekend after the harvester's first trip, the harvest opportunity may be lost due to tides no longer being low enough to harvest or a change in weather. This proposal would allow the full annual limit to be harvested in a single fishing trip and rounds the allowable limit up to the nearest 25 pound increment. Herring roe is often stored in 50 pound wet-lock boxes, making 75 pounds or 325 pounds quantities that can be measured in the field much more easily than 64 pounds or 316 pounds.

While macrocystis kelp was once in limited supply, the now-abundant sea otters have eaten enough sea urchins (which eat kelp), that now great kelp forests flourish. Hence, the amounts of herring roe and kelp taken under roe-on-kelp subsistence permits is negligible compared to the currently available resources.

PROPOSED BY: Tad Fujioka (EF-F20-018)

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PROPOSAL 163

5 AAC 27.195. Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.

Establish equal share quotas for the Sitka sac roe purse seine fishery, as follows:

Assign equal quota shares in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery as follows: For the G01A herring fishery, the quota shall be divided equally amongst all permit holders who currently own a permit for that fishery.

Under 5 AAC 27.195 part (a), include a section that establishes an equal quota share management strategy that allocated an equal share of the guideline harvest level each year to each G01A permit holder.

Suggested regulation would read: 5 AAC 27.195 (a) (3) manage the purse seine fishery so that each G01A permit holder is allocated an equal portion of the guideline harvest level. The Department shall open the fishery by emergency order and may impose conditions that allow for and orderly and controlled fishery including limiting the number of vessels on the grounds at any given time and allowing for consolidation of more than one permit on each vessel participating in the fishery, provided that the permit holders are onboard the vessel while fishing and delivering.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current management of the Sitka Sound sac roe fishery creates an extremely dangerous fishery that results in multiple damages to vessels, nets, and persons involved in the fishery. Further it does not adequately address the needs for conservation of the resource and the ability to meet the concerns of the subsistence users.

If this issue is not addressed the fishery will remain dangerous and expensive to manage. The Department of Public Safety and the United States Coast Guard will spend thousands of dollars

trying to control the fishery. The issues of conservation won't be addressed and it will not address the concerns of the subsistence users. With an equal quota share permit some permits could be held by persons not wanting to harvest their share of the quota thereby adding to the escaping biomass and providing for more subsistence harvest opportunities.

PROPOSED BY: Charles Olson (EF-F20-049)

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PROPOSAL 164

5 AAC 27.195. Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery.

Establish equal share quotas for the Sitka Sound sac roe herring purse seine fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 27.195 would be amended to read:

(c) A permit holder of a CFEC permit in the G01A fishery may not retain more herring in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe fishery than the annual amount of herring equal quota share that is specified by the department. The department shall determine the annual amount of herring equal quota share by dividing the annual harvest objective by the number of CFEC permits and interim use permits eligible to be fished in the fishery.

(d) When participating in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery, a person holding a CFEC permit or interim permit for that fishery must retain in that persons possession and present for inspection on board the vessel on which that person is registered to fish, a copy of each completed fish ticket issued to that person during the current season. The permit holder shall provide each buyer with the total weight of herring that the permit holder has landed to date in the fishery for that year.

(e) If a person harvest exceeds the permit holders equal quota share established under (c) and (d) of this section for that year, by not more than ten percent, the department shall reduce the permit holders equal quota share for the following year by the amount of the overage. The adjusted quota share is the permit holders quota share for that year. If a permit holders harvest exceeds the permit holders equal quota share by more than ten percent, the proceeds from the sale of the overage in excess of then percent shall be surrendered to the state. A permit holder may not assume that the ability to adjust a equal quota share under this section is an opportunity to knowingly exceed a quota share or to exceed the equal quota in an amount greater than ten percent as such actions may be prosecuted under AS 16.05.722 or AS 16.05.723

(f) If a permit holders harvest is less than the permit holders equal quota share established under (c) or (d) of this section for that year, the department shall increase the permit holders equal quota share only for the following year by the amount of underage that does not exceed ten percent of the equal quota share.

(g) In the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe fishery, herring may only be taken daily from 8:00am to 5:00pm from March 1 until April 30. Permit holders must register with the department before fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Sitka Sound commercial sac roe fishery is one of the most hazardous fisheries in the state. Fishermen are put into small areas for even smaller amounts of time to fight over the resource. Vessels are routinely in collisions, vessels have rolled over, gear is frequently destroyed and injuries are not uncommon. Fishermen and insurance companies have frequent claims, and the State of Alaska, USCG and local law enforcement are forced to spend limited and valuable resources to patrol the derby fishery. This is not only costly to the fishermen and government, but taking these limited enforcement resources away from their usual duties to monitor a derby makes the residents of the region less safe. We, permit holders in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe fishery, would like this dangerous derby style fishery to end. We should not have to needlessly risk our equipment and crew just to go fishing.

There are several fisheries in the State of Alaska that are managed under a equal quota share system. These are the PWS sablefish fishery, Northern SE sablefish fishery and Southern SE sablefish fishery. These are all some of the safest and orderly fisheries in the state. These fisheries require very little enforcement and in season management. GHL's are never exceeded and the resources are healthy. We, permit holders in the Sitka Sound commercial sac roe herring fishery, would like to be managed under a similar safe and orderly system.

PROPOSED BY: Andrew Kittams, Alan Otness, Nels Otness, and Jim Bodding (EF-F20-060)
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PROPOSAL 165
5 AAC 27.110. Fishing seasons for Southeastern Alaska Area.
Allow unharvested Sitka sac roe quota to be harvested for food and bait by herring sac roe purse seine permit holders, as follows:

Allow the harvest of the uncaught quota from the Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery to be harvested during a food and bait fishery by G01A permit holders in Sitka Sound as follows:

5 AAC 27.110 (a) delete [SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE OF CAPE ASPID (56 41.75 N LAT)]
(b) Herring may be taken in the sac roe fishery [ONLY] during seasons established by emergency order in the following sections;

Add section: **(g) In section 13b herring can only be taken for food or bait by G01A permit holders.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? When the market for sac roe herring is weak the quota for the Sitka Sound sac roe fishery goes unharvested. There is no other way to harvest the herring and generate revenue for the fleet, their crews, the processors, and the community. By allowing the harvest of the quota for other usages it creates the opportunity to develop new markets and products for the resource.

PROPOSED BY: Charles Olson (EF-F20-050)
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PROPOSAL 166

5 AAC 27.1XX. New Section.

Create an open pound herring spawn on kelp fishery in Sitka Sound, as follows:

An experimental open pound herring spawn on kelp fishery was conducted in Sitka Sound in 1998 and 1999. This project identified open pounds as a viable alternative to the sac roe fishery and produced published studies, data, and video which demonstrate the positive results of this alternative harvest method. The time is overdue to make a positive change in the Sitka herring fishery. Allowing existing G01A permit holders the option of using open pound roe on kelp instead of seining for sac roe would increase the value of the fishery and promote conservation of the resource. Fishermen and Permit Holders, Processors, Subsistence users, and the community of Sitka would all see an increase in benefit from the Sitka herring resource by allowing existing permit holders a choice between sac roe seining and utilizing open pound roe on kelp.

Please allow existing G01A permit holders the alternative harvest method of open pound roe on kelp contingent on later action by CFEC.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Fisheries for forage species such as herring are seeing increased scrutiny and market conditions for traditional sac roe product have never been worse. It is more important than ever to make changes to the fishery which promote conservation and increase the value of the extracted resource. In short, allowing open pound spawn on kelp as an alternative harvest method would increase the value of the Sitka Sound herring fishery while removing less fish from the biomass which are two things fishery managers should strive for.

The Board of Fisheries (BOF) has written two letters to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) asking the CFEC to take the Sitka Area (GO1A) limited entry administrative area out of the Northern Pound (L21A) limited entry administrative area. CFEC has taken no action on either request. This inaction has stopped the BOF from deliberating and deciding on this proposal which would allow those with GO1A permits the alternative of using open pounds to harvest their Sitka Sound herring stock. The Board needs to let CFEC know if they favor this proposal so CFEC would be compelled to make the necessary complementary regulatory changes. Without the Board demonstrating support for this proposal CFEC will not act.

PROPOSED BY: Darrell Kapp (EF-F20-039)

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PROPOSAL 167

5 AAC 27.110. Fishing seasons for Southeastern Alaska Area and 5 AAC 27.160. Quotas and Guideline harvest levels for Southeastern Alaska Area.

Redefine the boundaries of the Hoonah Sound spawn-on-kelp fishery (13-C) and the Sitka sac roe fishery (13-A/B), as follows:

Remove Salisbury sound from the Sac Roe seine fishery and open it for spawn on kelp. The last time Hoonah sound had a fishery was when seiners fished in Salisbury sound after that there were

no more fisheries in Hoonah sound. Hoonah sound is only 11 miles away from Salisbury sound and the stocks are one.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Designate Salisbury sound for the Northern Southeast spawn on kelp fishery. The Salisbury sound stock is Hoonah fish. It should be a spawn on kelp area for northern southeast permit holders. It is 11 miles from Hoonah sound and there hasn't been much if any spawn in Hoonah lately, they just moved south 11 miles, which is not unreasonable.

PROPOSED BY: Larry Demmert (EF-F20-046)

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PROPOSAL 168

5 AAC 27.110. Fishing seasons for Southeastern Alaska Area.

Repeal commercial set gillnet sac roe herring fisheries in Section 1-F, as follows:

5 AAC 27.110. Repeal commercial sac roe herring fishing in Section 1F (Revilla Channel, Kak Shakes, Dog, Cat Island)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? To repeal commercial sac roe fishing in Section 1F (Revilla Channel). Fishery started 1976 fished until 1998. Has not been fished for 22 years, stock have not recovered.

We have King salmon stock of concern that depend on the herring for food year round. I believe this warrants the board to take the same action it took in 2018 for Sections 15B, 15C and 11A.

PROPOSED BY: Donald Westlund (HQ-F20-030)

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PROPOSAL 169

5 AAC 27.110. Fishing seasons for Southeastern Alaska Area.

Repeal commercial set gillnet sac roe herring fisheries in Sections 1-E and 1-F, as follows:

5 AAC 27.110. Repeal commercial sac roe herring fishing in Sections 1E and 1F.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

West Behm Canal Herring Fishery Background

West Behm Canal is located in Southeast Alaska, approximately nine nautical miles north of downtown Ketchikan. Before statehood when the federal government was managing and assessing herring stocks in the Ketchikan area, the West Behm Canal herring stock was considered a minor stock of herring. Historical records from the 1950' s show that the nautical miles of herring spawn fluctuated between 1 and 8 miles in West Behm Canal on an annual basis. Fisheries occurred in the area throughout the 1960' s and 1970' s with the purse seine bait fishery as the largest component. The department of Fish and Game, under a more conservative fishery regime, closed the fisheries in 1980. The amount of spawn continued to fluctuate between 1 and 6.5 miles of

between 1980 and 1992. So, during the 42 years from 1950 and 1992 the miles of spawn ranged from 1 and 8 miles.

The Board of Fisheries, during the January 2003 meeting in Sitka, established a herring fishery in West Behm Canal after hearing and reading extensive testimony from interested parties with widely differing viewpoints.

Since then there has only been one opening in 2011. And none since. The herring in this area haver still not recovered. Taking the action the board took in 2018 on repealing sac roe fishing in Sections 15B, 15C, and 11A. I believe the same action is warranted for the same reasons in Sections 1E and 1F (West Behm Canal).

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund (HQ-F20-029)
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PROPOSAL 233
5 AAC 33.200. Fishing districts and sections.
Remove districts 13-A and 13-B from Northern Southeast herring spawn on kelp pound fishery administrative area, as follows:

Remove districts 13A and 13B from L21A administrative areas.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There is an overlap in administrative areas for G01A permits and L21A permits. L21A permittees were mistakenly given access to an already fully allocated and utilized herring stock.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Herring Conservation Alliance (HQ-F20-107)
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Shrimp and miscellaneous

PROPOSAL 170
5 AAC 02.108. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of shellfish stocks. 5 AAC 01.666. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amounts necessary for subsistence uses. 5 AAC 01.713. Subsistence use of aquatic plants in Southeastern Alaska Area., and 5 AAC 01.716. Customary and traditional subsistence uses of fish stocks and amounts necessary for subsistence uses.
Establish a positive customary and traditional use finding for shellfish and plants for all intertidal areas of Southeast Alaska and Yakutat, as follows:

Add "**(15) unless otherwise specified, include all beach seafood in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area as defined by 5 AAC 02.100**."

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Indigenous people of the Ketchikan Indian Community have been using all beach resources throughout southeast Alaska since time immemorial. These include but are not limited to clams, cockles, seaweed, gumboots, sea asparagus, and sea cucumbers. In any indigenous household, you can find a number of these

resources at any given time. These resources are part of the identity of traditional users. Therefore, we find it appropriate to have all such beach seafood to be classified as customary and traditional resources.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Indian Community (HQ-F20-051)
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PROPOSAL 171
5 AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A.
Change the start of the pot shrimp season from October to after March, as follows:

Might we change the harvest season until after March? (before salmon season)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Southeast spot shrimp are on a decline, yet we continue commercial harvest during the spawning season. According to your own information, eggs can be found on spot shrimp from October through March.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Foley (EF-F20-005)
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PROPOSAL 172
5 AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A and 5 AAC 31.145. Southeastern Alaska Area Pot Shrimp Fishery Management Plan.
Change the pot shrimp fishery from a fall/winter season to a spring/summer season, as follows:

5 AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A Except as provided in 5 AAC 31.145 (d), in Registration Area A, shrimp may be taken by pots only from **May 15 through July 31,** [OCTOBER 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28] unless closed earlier by emergency order.

5 AAC 31.145. (d) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open a shrimp fishing season from **October 1 through February 30 (winter season),**[MAY 15 THROUGH JULY 31 (SUMMER SEASON)] in a district where the guideline harvest range was not reached during the season specified in 5 AAC 31.110 **(Summer Season)** [(WINTER SEASON)].

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We hope to address the ever-decreasing shrimp stocks and shorter and shorter commercial shrimping seasons in Southeast Alaska by moving the commercial shrimp opener from October to May when the shrimp no longer have eggs. If we continue to hold our commercial shrimp season at a time when a large percentage of the shrimp carry eggs, we can expect the stocks in Southeast Alaska to continue to decline. Canada, with its robust shrimp fishery, proves year after year that targeting the shrimp after they lay eggs is smart management. In the past, some permit holders have resisted this change, citing it would limit opportunity for those that participate in multiple fisheries. However, in recent years 95% of the harvest occurs in the first two-three weeks of fishing, making the conflict with other fisheries less of an issue.

Moving the fishery to the spring would enhance shrimp stocks and possibly lead to more fishing opportunity. ADFG staff have been very supportive of this move in the past saying: "Changing the initial season start date to May 15 would enhance biological conservation and fishery management. Fishing during this time period may allow for increased guideline harvest levels in the future because the fishery would occur before the high natural mortality periods of molting, mating, egg development, and egg extrusion. The current fall fishery occurs after these processes are complete. Fishing on the stock in the spring would also allow females carrying eggs in the fall to brood and hatch their eggs before being subject to fishing mortality, which may enhance long term stock resilience." (ADF&G 2017. Staff Comments)

Additional benefits would include:
1. Enhanced management of the fishery. Currently the October opener occurs too close to the survey to inform management for that season's fishery. Rev. Dec. 2019
2. More opportunity for a local Market. Regional processors and catcher/sellers have expressed interest in a spring fishery as the tourist season provides more customers and restaurants are wanting shrimp.
3. Safer weather and more participation opportunity for smaller boats
4. A more viable product for US markets. Eggs cause the shrimp to decompose more rapidly and the orange mess is a turnoff to the American consumer.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-085)
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PROPOSAL 173
5 AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A; and 5 AAC 31.145. Southeastern Alaska Area Pot Shrimp Fishery Management Plan.
Change the pot shrimp fishery from a fall/winter season to a spring/summer season, as follows:

5 AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A Except as provided in 5AAC 31.145 (d), in Registration Area A, shrimp may be taken by pots only from **May 21 through July 31** [OCTOBER 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28] unless closed earlier by emergency order.

5 AAC 31.145.
(d) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open a shrimp fishing season from **October 1 through February 30 (winter season),[**MAY 21 THROUGH JULY 31 (SUMMER SEASON) in a district where the guideline harvest range was not reached during the season specified in 5 AAC 31.110 **(Summer Season)** [(WINTER SEASON).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We hope to address the ever-decreasing shrimp stocks and shorter and shorter commercial shrimping seasons in Southeast Alaska by moving the commercial shrimp opener from October to May when the shrimp no longer have eggs. If the commercial shrimp season continues to be held at a time when a large percentage of the shrimp carry eggs, the stocks in Southeast Alaska may continue to decline. In the past, some permit holders have resisted this change, citing it would limit opportunity for those that participate

in multiple fisheries. However, in recent years 95% of the harvest occurs in the first two-three weeks of fishing, making the conflict with other fisheries less of an issue.

Moving the fishery to the spring would enhance shrimp stocks and possibly lead to more fishing opportunity. ADF&G staff have been very supportive of this move in the past saying:

> "Changing the initial season start date to May 15 would enhance biological conservation and fishery management. Fishing during this time period may allow for increased GHLs in the future because the fishery would occur before the high natural mortality periods of molting, mating, egg development, and egg extrusion. The current fall fishery occurs after these processes are complete. Fishing on the stock in the spring would also allow females carrying eggs in the fall to brood and hatch their eggs before being subject to fishing mortality, which may enhance long term stock resilience." (ADF&G 2017 Staff Comments)

In their consideration of moving the commercial shrimp season opening to May 15, however, ADF&G staff failed to realize that a May 15 opening would create a serious conflict with the long established spring brown bear hunting season for resident and guided non-resident bear hunters. Moving this season opening to May 21 would eliminate most, if not all of this conflict.

Additional benefits of a spring opening would include:

- Enhanced management of the fishery. Currently the October opener occurs too close to the survey to inform management for that season's fishery
- More opportunity for a local Market. Regional processors and catcher/sellers have expressed interest in a spring fishery as the tourist season provides more customers and restaurants are wanting shrimp.
- Safer weather and more participation opportunity for smaller boats
- A more viable product for US markets. Eggs cause the shrimp to decompose more rapidly and the orange mess is a turn off to the American consumer.

PROPOSED BY: Lucas Bastian (EF-F20-066)

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PROPOSAL 174

5 AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A and 5 AAC 31.145. Southeastern Alaska Area Pot Shrimp Fishery Management Plan.

Change the pot shrimp season in Districts 2 and 6 from a fall/winter season to spring/summer season, as follows:

5 AAC 31.110(#) Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration Area A:

Except as provided in 5 AAC 31.145(d) and Districts 2 and 6, in Registration Area A, shrimp may be taken by pots only from October 1 through February 28, unless closed by emergency order. In district 2 and 6, shrimp may be taken by pots only from May 15th through July 31st, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently shrimp season is managed with a fall opener for a small percentage of fishermen and overseas markets. Shrimp in Southeast Alaska are harvested during the fall while the shrimp are bearing eggs. The shrimp stocks continue to decrease and most commercial shrimpers agree shrimp need to be caught during the spring and early summer.

Directly to our south, British Columbia has a sustainable spot prawn fishery. British Columbia has a few similarities with Alaska concerning their commercial fishery. They have a limited entry program to restrict the numbers of permit holders fishing commercially. They restrict the number of pots a vessel can fish and the size volume of the pots. They also have specific sections set aside for recreational fishermen. Harvest logs are required and seasons are closed when a certain catch level has been met.

British Columbia manages their commercial shrimp fishery differently from Alaska several different ways. Fishermen can only haul each shrimp pot once per day. All female shrimp with eggs must be released as well as all shrimp under a certain size. Pots have a minimum mesh size restriction to allow escapement of undersized shrimp. Their shrimp season opens in May and last through the mid to later part of June. The reason for a May opener is to allow "spawners" to release their eggs. Recreational shrimp closures will often occur during winter months to allow "spawners" to release their eggs.

Southeast Alaska waters are directly north of British Columbia. British Columbia has a sustainable fishery. The fishery is recognized by the David Suzuki Foundation/Seachoice program as a BEST CHOICE, the Vancouver Aquarium Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise program as GREEN, and the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch as a BEST CHOICE. Southeast Alaska shrimp fishery is only known as a depleted fishery.

The East POW AC would like our represented commercial fishing districts of 2 and 6 to be the turning point for Alaska to have a sustainable shrimp fishery. As British Columbia has proven, shrimp stocks remain sustainable only if the egg bearing females are allowed to release their eggs prior to an open commercial season. Having a spring season will allow for local sales of the shrimp and a product which is more desirable to the local market. Shrimp with eggs are not desired by the local consumer. At the same time, 90% of British Columbia's shrimp sales are to overseas consumers. When asked, a large percentage of the commercial shrimp fishermen support a spring shrimp fishery in Alaska.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-094)
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PROPOSAL 175
5 AAC 31.124. Lawful shrimp pot gear for Registration Area A.
Limit the number of shrimp pots that may be deployed on a longline to 10, as follows:

5 AAC 31.124. Limit of no more than 10 shrimp pots per string.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Limit deployment of no more of 10 shrimp pots per string. This would slow the pace of the fishery, and further provide for gear standardization between large boats and small boats.

Background:

Commercial harvest of shrimp in Southeast Alaska utilizing pot gear began in the late 1960s and continued sporadically with low effort until the mid-1980s, peaking in the mid-1990s. In 1995, the CFEC was petitioned to include pot gear for shrimp into the limited entry program. The pot shrimp fishery is now limited entry and there are currently 256 active and interim permits of the 329 originally issued. In 1997, regulations were adopted that significantly affected the Southeast Alaska Pot Shrimp fishery. These regulations include the current daily fishing periods, pot sizes, and pot limits. These restrictions had several effects: I) decreased efficiency of the fleet, producing a slower-paced and more orderly fishery; 2) reduced the harvest of small shrimp by limiting fishing hours, leading to longer soak times which allows mesh size to passively sort out smaller shrimp; and 3) provided for gear standardization, allowing fishery performance data to be utilized by managers.

The department supports the concept of establishing regulations that reduce capture of small shrimp. Pot limits are generally allocative between small boat and large boat operations. There may be benefits in slowing the pace of the fishery in some regions.

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund (HQ-F20-031)

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PROPOSAL 176

5 AAC 31.124. Lawful shrimp pot gear for Registration Area A.

Reduce the number of shrimp pots that a vessel may fish, as follows:

5 AAC 31.124. Limits of 100 small pots or 75 large pots.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Reduction of shrimp pots. The shrimp fishery is a five month season. It has now become a one month or less derby. Derbies are never good for the resource and can lead to dangerous conditions that fishermen have to fish in (weather). It would reduce the daily catch. The managers would be able to more accurately determine catch and when to close the individual fishing districts.

Background: Commercial harvest of shrimp in Southeast Alaska utilizing pot gear began in the late l960s and continued sporadically with low effort until the mid-1980s, peaking in the mid-1990s. In 1995, the CFEC was petitioned to include pot gear for shrimp into the limited entry program. The pot shrimp fishery is now limited entry and there are currently 256 active and interim permits of the 329 originally issued. In 1997, regulations were adopted that significantly affected the Southeast Alaska Pot Shrimp fishery. These regulations include the current daily fishing periods, pot sizes, and pot limits. These restrictions had several effects: I) decreased efficiency of the fleet, producing a slower-paced and more orderly fishery; 2) reduced the harvest of small shrimp by limiting fishing hours, leading to longer soak times which allows mesh size to passively

sort out smaller shrimp; and 3) provided for gear standardization, allowing fishery performance data to be utilized by managers.

The department supports the concept of establishing regulations that reduce capture of small shrimp. Pot limits are generally locative between small boat and large boat operations. There may be benefits m slowing the pace of the fishery in some regions.

256 active permits
Currently 140 small or 100 large pots

256x140=35840
minus
256x100=25600
=10240
/140
= small pot reduction of 73 pot limits

256x100=25600
minus
256x75=19200
=6400
/100
=large pot reduction of 64 pot limits

73 small pot limits + 64 large pot limits = 137 combined pot limits /2 = 68.5 average pot limits reduced

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund (HQ-F20-032)
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PROPOSAL 177
5 AAC 31.136. Closed waters in Registration Area A.
Establish closed waters in the Hydaburg area of Section 3-A, as follows:

Hydaburg LAC proposes to close the following waters to commercial shrimp fisheries.

5 AAC 31.105 Commercial Shrimp
(1) Section 3-A: waters of district 3 south and east of a line through Tlevak Narrows beginning at the eastern most tip of Turn Point at 55* 15.78' N. lat, 133* 07.23'W.long., to a point on Prince of Wales Island at 55* 15.75' N. lat.,133* 06.43' W. long., including Soda bay and its contiguous water, but excluding all waters of Meares Pass and its contiguous waters, AS WELL AS EXCLUDING SUKWAAN STRAITS FROM ROUND POINT 55*.125064; -132.688544 ACROSS TO EEK POINT 55*13770; -132.666874 NORTH TO THE HEAD OF NATZUHINI BAY 55*270024; -132.849299 EXTENDING WEST TO THE OPENINGS OF NORTH PASS 55*210175; -132961267 TO 55*207138; -132938232 AND SOUTH PASS 55.168517; -132.893346 TO 55*.163067;-132890543.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Hydaburg LAC would like to close the commercial fishery in the waters adjacent to the community of Hydaburg. There has been a drastic decline in the shrimp available in the inside waters to personal use shrimp fisherman. Closing the waters to commercial shrimpers will give the shrimp time to rebuild the stocks in area.

PROPOSED BY: Anthony Christianson (EF-F20-055)
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PROPOSAL 178
5 AAC 31.136. Closed waters in Registration Area A.
Expand waters closed to commercial pot shrimp fishery in Kasaan Bay, as follows:

5 AAC 31.136(4) Shrimp may not be taken: in the waters of Kasaan Bay south and west of a line that stretches from the northern most tip of Daisy Island located at 55'28.816'N lat, 132'19.397"W long, to the tip of Baker Point located at 55'30.805'N lat, 132'24.527'W, including all waters of Twelve-mile Arm;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The 2013 October commercial shrimp season for District 2 has left the personal use shrimpers with low shrimp biomass. District 2 is a large area; however the commercial fishing fleet focused their efforts in the waters of Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm in 2013 which are adjacent to the communities of Hollis and Kasaan. Both areas were hard to navigate during the fishery from the large amount of commercial gear. After the 2013 commercial season, personal use fishermen had a hard time locating shrimp in the waters of Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm. When shrimp were/are harvested, the numbers of them caught are very low. The area used to receive moderate personal use fishing pressure through-out the year from residents of Prince of Wales Island as well as Ketchikan. Prince of Wales has a large population of subsistence / personal use users who rely on the land and ocean to feed their families. The island has a high cost of living with a financially depressed economy. ADF&G held a 2014 commercial shrimp season; however they closed Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm after a period where the commercial fishermen were catching very low numbers for the effort they put in to the fishery. Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm remained closed for the 2015 2016, and 2017 commercial shrimp seasons by emergency order due to a low biomass. ADF&G reopened Kasaan bay during the 2018 and 2019 season. During the 2019 season the commercial shrimp fishermen caught 42,500 pounds of shrimp when the GHL was set at 30,000 pounds. Currently the shrimp biomass is harvested commercially in October while the female shrimp contain eggs and is marketed to an overseas market. This commercial closure of a small section of Kasaan Bay to shrimping will have very little impact on the commercial fishery. The large commercial vessels can easily navigate to the surrounding open areas to commercial shrimp and away from the community of Kasaan who its members rely on a subsistence lifestyle to exist..

A regulation closure of the area to commercial shrimping would protect a relatively small percentage of District 2 to allow personal use fishermen to utilize the resource. Ketchikan personal use fishermen would benefit from closed commercial shrimp area as buoys in the Kasaan Bay are

routinely observed with Ketchikan addresses. The area selected for the closure is in close proximity to the community of Kasaan.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-076)
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PROPOSAL 179
5 AAC 31.136. Closed waters in Registration Area A.
Expand waters closed to commercial pot shrimp fishery in Twelve-Mile Arm, as follows:

5 AAC 31.136(4) Shrimp may not be taken: in the waters of Twelve-mile Arm south and west of a line that stretches from the northern most tip of Outer Point located at 55'31.233'N lat, 132'31.442"W long, to point located on Prince of Wales Island located at 55'31.937'N lat, 132'32.969'W, including all waters of Twelve-mile Arm;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The 2013 October commercial shrimp season for District 2 has left the personal use shrimpers with low shrimp biomass. District 2 is a large area; however the commercial fishing fleet focused their efforts in the waters of Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm in 2013 which are adjacent to the communities of Hollis and Kasaan. Both areas were hard to navigate during the fishery from the large amount of commercial gear. After the 2013 commercial season, personal use fishermen had a hard time locating shrimp in the waters of Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm. When shrimp was harvested, the numbers of them caught, and continue today in the single digits and small in size. The area used to receive moderate personal use fishing pressure through-out the year from residents of Prince of Wales Island as well as Ketchikan. Prince of Wales has a large population of subsistence / personal use users who rely on the land and ocean to feed their families. The island has a high cost of living with a financially depressed economy. ADF&G held a 2014 commercial shrimp season; however they closed Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm after a period where the commercial fishermen were catching very low numbers for the effort they put in to the fishery. Kasaan Bay and Twelve-mile Arm remained closed for the 2015, 2016, and 2017 commercial shrimp seasons by emergency order due to a low biomass. ADF&G reopened Kasaan Bay and the start of Twelve-mile Arm during the 2018 and 2019 seasons. During the 2019 season the commercial shrimp fishermen caught 42,500 pounds of shrimp when the GHL was set at 30,000 pounds. Currently the shrimp biomass is harvested commercially in October while the female shrimp contain eggs and is marketed to an overseas market. This small commercial closure of a small section of Twelve-mile Arm to shrimping will have very little impact of the commercial fishery. The large commercial vessels can fish the surrounding open areas to commercial shrimping and away from the community of Hollis who its members rely on a subsistence lifestyle to exist.

A regulation closure of the area to commercial shrimping would protect a relatively small percentage of District 2 to allow personal use fishermen to utilize the resource. The area selected for the closure is in directly adjacent to the community of Hollis.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-078)
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PROPOSAL 180

5 AAC 31.112. Sidestripe shrimp beam trawl fishing in Registration Area A.

Repeal observer coverage requirement, as follows:

There would be no new regulation, Only deleting existing language. Repeal line (7) of part (b) of 5 AAC31.112

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would ask the Board of Fish to repeal line number (7) of section (b) that reads (the commissioner may require an onboard observer on a vessel during fishing operations) . None of the other shrimp fisheries have this requirement. When engaged in sidestripe fishing I average around 600.00 per day, with one to two crewmembers. The cost of an observer would exceed my income on most days. I do not produce any more bycatch sidestripe fishing than I do pink/stripe peeler shrimp fishing. I have looked at cameras as another means of observation, though it still requires monitoring by Fish & Game, and with budget shortfalls do not see that as a viable alternative. I have been threatened with this added expense when requesting this fishery open.

PROPOSED BY: Brett Stillwaugh (EF-F20-103)

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PROPOSAL 181

5 AAC 31.112. Sidestripe shrimp beam trawl fishing in Registration Area A.

Open a directed sidestripe beam trawl fishery in District 8 for remainder of November-February season once the directed shrimp beam trawl fishery has closed, as follows:

5 AAC 31.112 add line (8) to section (b) to read, upon the closure of the Area 8, 4th pink quota of the year. The stand alone sidestripe shrimp trawl fishery will be opened until February 28th or the sidestripe quota has been taken.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Over the last 20 years there have been limited times when there was a market for peeler shrimp (small pink/sidestripe shrimp). The few beam trawlers fishing during these times worked primarily on larger sidestripe shrimp for the fresh, and frozen tail, and head-on markets. The best quality of sidestripe shrimp in Area 8 show up in the winter months, with the least amount of by-catch. In past years Fish & Game has been reluctant to open the stand alone sidestripe fishery after the 4th quota of the year is taken. The only reasoning I was told was lack of data, that I find hard to believe in a fishery that has been going since 1929. If nothing is changed the shrimp fisherman in area 8 will continue to lose opportunity and income. I looked at many different options from splitting quotas and redrawing area lines. This being the easiest least complicated way of addressing the issue without affecting the Trawlers fishing Pink shrimp. Any trawler would still be able to request a standalone sidestripe shrimp trawl fishery be opened after any one of the three earlier openings.

PROPOSED BY: Brett Stillwaugh (EF-F20-125)

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PROPOSAL 182

5 AAC 31.115. Shrimp pot guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A.

Divide the District 15 GHR into two fishing areas with distinct GHRs for the new areas, as follows:

5 AAC 31.115 (a)(15) is amended to read:

(15) District 15: [0 – 20,000 POUNDS OF COONSTRIPE SHRIMP;]

(A) Chilkoot, Lutak, and Taiya Inlets: 0 – 10,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp;

(B) remainder of District 15: 0 – 10,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations do not reflect management practices for the District 15 pot shrimp fishery that have been utilized since 2009. Past management practices of managing for one GHL for all of District 15 resulted in reductions of GHL and closures. The District 15 GHL for coonstripe shrimp was set at 20,000 pounds, the upper end of the GHR, through the 2004/05 season. It was reduced by 25% to 15,000 pounds for the 2005/06 season in response to concerns for stock health. The district was closed for three seasons from the 2006/07 season through 2008/09 season due to increased concerns for stock health. Beginning with the 2009/10 season, District 15 was split into two management areas, each with a specific management target to further address concerns for stock health. One target of 7,500 pounds was specific to "District 15-East," an area comprised of Chilkoot, Lutak, and Taiya Inlets. A second management target of 7,500 pounds was specified for "District 15-Remainder," which included the remainder of the district with Chilkat Inlet being the primary fishing area. This management strategy has allowed the department to better react to changes in the shrimp populations in these areas and provide for more sustainable fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-159)

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PROPOSAL 183

5 AAC 47.035. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish. and 5 AAC 77.660. Personal use shrimp fishery.

Establish tunnel eye size requirements for ridged mesh shrimp pots in the personal use and sport fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 47.035(k)(1) and 5 AAC 77.660(5)(A) A pot used to take shrimp under this chapter must have no more than four tunnel eye openings; no tunnel eye opening may exceed 15 inches in perimeter; except a rigid hard sided pot may have a tunnel eye opening not to exceed 20 inches in perimeter.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Many commercially available hard sided rigid sport shrimp pots have tunnel eye openings which exceed the 15 inch perimeter requirement. A commonly found shrimp pot has four tunnel eye openings that is rectangular in shape and measures 8 inches wide by 2 inches tall. The rectangular opening has extruder bars which prevent larger fish, crab and starfish from entering the pot.

Looking at the current regulation, a circular tunnel eye opening of 15 inches has a surface area opening of 17.904 square inches. A hard sided rigid mesh tunnel eye opening of 8 inches long by

2 inches high has a surface area opening area of 16 square inches. Even though these rigid mesh pots exceed the current perimeter requirement, they are actually smaller in surface area.

This proposed change in regulation will allow sport fishermen and personal use fishermen to fish with commonly sold rigid hard sided mesh shrimp pots legally in Southeastern Alaska waters. All other pot regulations will remain unchanged.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-091)
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PROPOSAL 184
5 AAC 47.035. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish.
Clarify the practice of long-lining shrimp pots in the sport fishery.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Longlining of shrimp pots is a common practice in the personal use shrimp fishery. It is specifically addressed in 5 AAC 77.660(4): *"unless otherwise provided for in this chapter, pots operated to take shrimp may be longlined; a buoy is not required for each pot, but at least one buoy on the longline must be marked as required in 5 AAC 77.010(d)".*

In the sport shrimp fishery there is no explicit statement on the practice of longlining; however, 5 AAC 47.035(f) states *"A sport fisherman using pots to take shellfish shall plainly and legibly inscribe the fisherman's first initial, last name, and home address on a keg or buoy attached to each pot."* This would indicate that longlining shrimp pots in the sport fishery is not allowed because each pot is required to be labeled.

We are seeking clarification on the board's intent on allowing longlining of shrimp pots in the sport fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-162)
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PROPOSAL 185
5 AAC 47.035. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish.
Allow the use of artificial lights as an attractant when taking squid., as follows:

Adopt a new subsection of 5 AAC 47.035 Methods, means and general provisions – Finfish, to wit: (b) **(8) Squid may be taken with the aid of artificial lights.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In recent years, Market Squid (Doryteutitis Opalescens) have established a presence in Southeast Alaska and they have become a desirable species to catch for both human consumption and for use as bait. There are currently no regulations that specifically cover the taking of market squid, (i.e. no closed seasons and no bag limits). A common method to take squid in other western states is to utilize artificial lights to attract them. Since there is no law specifically allowing the use of artificial lights, local Wildlife Troopers, when encountering squid anglers, have been issuing warnings for using lights to take squid. I

believe that allowing the use of artificial lights when taking squid will increase the opportunity for anglers to take advantage of this resource without doing it any harm. To support this opinion, in October of 2019, Mr. Ben Burford (doctoral candidate at Stanford University) gave a lecture at UAS Sitka Campus on the new market squid presence in Southeast Alaska. He has been studying the migration of these squid to our waters for the last several years. During the Q/A portion of his lecture, I specifically asked him if there was any level of rod and reel take of market squid that would harm their numbers in SE Alaska. He didn't hesitate in saying that there was no way that such a fishery could harm the market squid resource here.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-089)
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PROPOSAL 186
5 AAC 47.035. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish.
Allow the take of squid with hook and line gear with an unlimited number of hooks, as follows:

Adopt a new subsection of 5 AAC 47.035 Methods, means and general provisions – Finfish, to wit: (b) **(7) Squid may be taken by hook and line with up to unlimited number of hooks or jigs.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In recent years, market squid (Doryteutitis Opalescens) have established a presence in Southeast Alaska and they have become a desirable species to catch for both human consumption and for use as bait. There are currently no regulations that cover the taking of market squid, (i.e. no closed seasons and no bag limits) with the exception of 5 AAC 75.020 Sport fishing gear (a)(5) which limits anglers to the use of 2 hooks. Squid jigs & Sabiki rigs are commonly available in strings of 5-6 jigs/hooks. Local Wildlife Troopers, when encountering squid anglers, with no alternative law available to them have been enforcing the 2 hook law.

Since market squid are forage fish versus game species, I believe the law on number of hooks should be expanded. This has already been done for two other forage fish (herring and smelt) in 5 AAC 75.030 which allows use of 15 or less hooks. I do not believe this change to regulations would hurt the market squid resource. To support this opinion, in October of 2019, Mr. Ben Burford (doctoral candidate at Stanford University) gave a lecture at UAS Sitka Campus on the new market squid presence in Southeast Alaska. He has been studying the migration of these squid to our waters for the last several years. During the Q/A portion of his lecture, I specifically asked him if there was any level of rod and reel take of market squid that would harm their numbers in SE Alaska. He didn't hesitate in saying that there was no way that such a fishery could harm the market squid resource here. Allowing the use of more than 2 hooks would increase the opportunity for anglers to take advantage of this resource.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-090)
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PROPOSAL 187
5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.

Allow the department to modify weekly fishing periods by emergency order during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's Day, as follows:

5 AAC 38.140. Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan. (b) **(3) during the weeks of Christmas and New Years the commissioner may, by emergency order, open the fishery on days to maximize the harvest.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association would like to give ADF&G the flexibility to manage the southeast Alaska sea cucumber fishery during the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Right now, by regulation, the sea cucumber fishery opens on Monday/Tuesday. In years when the holidays fall on those days or the day after divers and processors may not operate. The department currently does not have the regulatory flexibility to change those days to accommodate the fisheries. This proposal would give the department that needed flexibility.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (HQ-F20-098)
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PROPOSAL 188
5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.
Change the start of the sea cucumber fishery from October 1 to the first Monday or Tuesday of October, as follows:

5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.
(b) Sea Cucumbers may be taken from **the first Monday/Tuesday** [OCTOBER 1] **in October** through March 31 during the fishing period established by emergency order.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (SARDFA) would like to clarify that the opening week of the Registration Area A sea cucumber fishery starts during the first full week of October that includes a Monday and Tuesday.

In 2019 the first day of October fell on a Tuesday. Divers wanted a full fishing period (Monday and Tuesday) so ADF&G did not open the fishery the first week of October but opened the fishery on the second week.

SARDFA would like to change the wording of the current regulation to avoid this confusion in the future.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (HQ-F20-100)
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PROPOSAL 189
5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan.
Allow the department to increase the number of divers allowed to fish from a vessel from two to four by emergency order, as follows:

5 AAC 38.142. Southeast Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan. (p) During an open geoduck fishing period, no more than two CFEC geoduck permit holders may conduct fishing operations from, or deliver geoducks from, a vessel licensed and registered to commercially fish for geoduck. From 24 hours before, during and for 24 hours after a fishing period, or when commercially harvested geoducks are on board the vessel, no more than three CFEC geoduck permit holders may be on board a vessel that is registered to commercially fish for geoduck.

(1) The commissioner may by emergency order modify the number of CFEC geoduck permit holders able to be onboard or fish from a registered vessel to four divers.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the geoduck clam fishery only 2 divers can fish from one vessel (5 AAC 38.142 (p)). However, late in the season it is often difficult to harvest the guideline harvest level (GHL) in some remote areas. We would like to have up to four CFEC geoduck permit holders conduct fishing operations from a vessel that is registered to commercially fish for geoducks to make it more economical to harvest the remaining GHL. This would be done late in the season when only remote areas are open.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (HQ-F20-099)

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Crab

PROPOSAL 190

5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan and 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

Amend the Red King Crab Management Plan to include trip limits and equal share quotas when harvestable surplus is below threshold, as follows:

5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan

(c) Until January 24, 2027, the department shall open the fishery as an equal permit share if the department's estimate of the available harvestable surplus is below 200,000 pounds of legal male red king crab. The department shall determine the annual amount of king crab equal quota share by dividing the GHL by the number of CFEC permits and interim use permits eligible to be fished in the fishery. When the threshold of 200,000 pounds is met or exceeded, the traditional fishery shall be prosecuted.

(1) When the harvestable surplus is above 88,500 and below 99,999 pounds of legal male red king crab, vessels will be subject to a 1,500 pound trip limit and no more than 3 days of fishing per trip to allow management to close areas as the regional GHLs are reached.

(2) When the harvestable surplus is between 100,000 and 199,999 pounds of legal male red king crab, vessels will be subject to a 2,000 pound trip limit and no more than 5 days of fishing per trip to allow management to close areas as the regional GHLS are reached.

(3) Permit holders will be required to pre-register before each trip for the area and dates they plan to fish.

(4) Permit holders will be required to call in daily to report their catch.

(5) All pots must be removed from the water at the end of a trip.

(6) Permit holders must wait one week between landings and the start of their next trip.

5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A
(b) The following king crab pot limits are in effect in Registration Area A:

(1) During the commercial red king crab season, the maximum number of king crab pots that may be operated from a vessel registered to fish for king crab is as follows:

(A) No more than 20 king crab pots when the guideline harvest level is [200,000 BUT] not more than 399,999 pounds;

(B) no more than 30 king crab pots when the guideline harvest level is at least 400,000 but not more than 499,999 pounds;

(C) no more than 40 king crab pots when the guideline harvest level is at least 500,000 but not more than 599,999 pounds;

(D) no more than 50 king crab pots when the guideline harvest level is 600,000 pounds or more;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We are looking for a way to prosecute a red king crab fishery at an economic threshold lower than 200,000 pounds of legal red king crab. This minimum threshold has not been addressed in several years, while the red king crab market price has increased. The minimum threshold was first set at 300,000 pounds in 1988 and later lowered to 200,000 in 2002 by the request of the industry and processors in response to the rising value of red king crab. According to ADF&G fishery ex-vessel prices, since 2000, the statewide average price of red king crab has increased from $4.74 a pound to $9.27 in 2018. We set this regulation to sunset before the start of the 2027/2028 season to allow this fishery management plan change a trial period of two board cycles. We mirrored the Chatham and Clarence sablefish equal quota share fisheries and realize that not all eligible permits will register to fish or land their full quota shares.

PROPOSED BY: Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association and Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-F20-073)
**The author of this proposal was incorrectly listed as the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in an earlier version.*
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PROPOSAL 191
5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan.

Amend the *Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan* to base harvestable surplus on historical fishery performance information when surveys are not available, as follows:

5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska Red King Crab Management Plan
(c) Until January 1, 2027, the department shall open all areas except Section 11A, for a fishery on even-years for a minimum of 3 days and maximum of 7 days. Managers can close areas on 5 hours notice, based on commercial CPUE. In the event an area has a high CPUE, managers may choose to re-open an area at their discretion.

(1) Permit holders will be required to pre-register for the areas they plan to fish for a trip. Managers must be notified 6 hours in advance of a permit holder setting gear in a new area.

(2) Permit holders will be required to call in daily to report their catch.

(d) the Policy on King and Tanner Crab Resource Management (90-04-FB, March 23, 1990) **For those fisheries without surveys or historical catch information adequate for estimating the population size, the GHL will be set based on historical fishery performance, catch, and population trend.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the event the funding for the red king crab survey is removed from the ADF&G budget, we are asking ADF&G develop a harvest strategy that relies on fishery performance, catch, and population trend as the main population estimates.

PROPOSED BY: Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association and Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-F20-074)
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PROPOSAL 192
5 AAC 34.114. Southeast Alaska Golden King Crab Management Plan.
Establish minimum guideline harvest level and guidance on inseason adjustment of guideline harvest levels in the Southeast Alaska golden king crab fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 34.114. Southeast Alaska Golden King Crab Management Plan
(a) The Southeast Alaska golden king crab fishery shall be managed consistently with the board's Policy on King and Tanner Crab Resource Management (90-04-FB, March 23, 1990), adopted by this reference, and according to the principles set out in this section.

(b) To the extent possible, golden king crab shall be managed as a separate stock in each defined fishing area. The department shall close an area if the abundance of various sizes of male crabs is inadequate to provide for a sustained harvest, or when potentially high effort precludes an orderly fishery.

(c) The department shall base management on historical fishery performance, catch, and population structure information. A lack of adequate information will result in conservative management.

(d) The Policy on King and Tanner Crab Resource Management (90-04-FB, March 23, 1990) states that a Guideline Harvest Level is a preseason estimate of the level of allowable king and Tanner crab harvest. In those fisheries with accurate population estimates the appropriate harvest rate is applied to the best point estimate to determine the GHL. For those fisheries without surveys or historical catch information adequate for estimating the population size, the GHL will be set based on historical fishery performance, catch, and population trend. Due to the lack of formal assessments and only data being available from the fishery, each Golden King crab area shall open for a set of tides to a pre-season guideline harvest level that is a minimum of 10% of the upper range of the guideline harvest range set for the area. After one set of tides, the GHL can be re-assessed and the fishery will be managed in-season accordingly.

(e) In-season adjustments may be made to the guideline harvest level and length of the fishing season. Information upon which such adjustments are based may include: 1.) overall fishing effort; 2.) catch per unit of effort and rate of harvest; 3.) relative abundance of Golden King crab; 4.) achievement of guideline harvest level (GHL); 5.) proportion of soft-shelled crabs and rate of dead loss; 6.) general information on stock condition including adequacy of reproductive stock; 7.) timeliness and accuracy of catch reporting; 8.) adequacy of subsistence harvests; 9.) the impact of severe or unexpected environmental conditions on the handling and trapping morality of crab; and 10.) other factors that affect ability to meet objectives of the policy. When this information shows that continued fishing effort would jeopardize the reproductive viability of king crab stocks within a registration area, or continued fishing would be counter to the goal and policies established by the Board, the registration area or a portion of the registration area will be closed by Emergency Order.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Amend the Southeast Alaska Golden King Crab Management Plan to further clarify for fishermen the expectations of how the fishery will be managed.

PROPOSED BY: Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association and Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-F20-071)

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PROPOSAL 193

5 AAC 34.107. Description of golden king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A.
Extend northern boundary of the Southern management area, as follows:

(g) Southern Area: all waters of District 1 and District 2, all waters of District 6 south of a line from Point Colpoys at 56° 20.18′ N. lat., 133° 11.90′ W. long., to Macnamara Point at 56° 20.18′ N. lat., 133° 03.54′ W. long., and all waters of District 7 south of the latitude of [POINT EATON AT 55° 56.80′ N. LAT.] **Point Warde 56° 10.43' N. lat.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We would like to extend the northern boundary of the Southern Area to include a portion of statistical area 107-20. We are not asking the guideline harvest level be raised.

PROPOSED BY: Petersburg Vessel Owner's Association and Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-F20-072)
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PROPOSAL 194

5 AAC 34.108. Description of blue king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A.

Remove Glacier Bay from the list of blue king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A, as follows:

5 AAC 34.108 is amended to read:

(b) The waters of District 11 in

(1) Taku Inlet: all waters north of the latitude of Point Bishop at 58° 12.05' N. lat;

(2) Port Snettisham: all waters east of a line from Point Styleman at 57° 58.44' N. lat., 133° 53.88' W. long. to Point Anmer at 57° 56.08' N. lat., 133° 51.01' W long.; and

(3) Holkham Bay: all waters east of a line from Point Coke at 57° 47.33' N. lat., 133° 41.43' W. long. to Point Astley at 57° 42.59' N. lat., 133° 39.07' W. long.

[(c) THE WATERS OF DISTRICT 14 IN GLACIER BAY: ALL WATERS NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF POINT GUSTAVUS AT 58° 22.79' N. LAT.] **Repealed**.

(d) The waters of District 15 in Lynn Canal: all waters north of the latitude of Point Sherman Light at 58° 51.16' N. lat.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Federal regulations prohibit commercial king crab fishing in Glacier Bay. Removing the reference to Glacier Bay as a blue king crab fishing area will make state regulations consistent with federal regulations for the blue king crab fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-150)
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PROPOSAL 195

5 AAC 35.113. Registration Area A Tanner crab harvest strategy

Extend Tanner crab fishing season in exploratory areas, as follows:

5 AAC 35.113. Registration Area A Tanner crab harvest strategy.

(b)(2) at the end of the initial period, the core areas will close to fishing, and the noncore and exploratory areas will remain open for an additional five days. After the noncore areas close to fishing, the exploratory areas will remain open for an additional twenty-eight days.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? At the 2018 SE shellfish board of fish meeting the board created a new "exploratory area" for Tanner crab in the exclusive economic zone of Registration Area A that is open for an additional fourteen days after the non core areas close to fishing. There has at this time been no effort in the new exploratory area.

There are several factors that contribute to the lack of effort. The biggest one being adverse weather conditions on the ocean during the fishery (the Registration Area A Tanner fishery has been traditionally prosecuted in bays, inlets and canals. Most fishermen are not set up to safely fish in rough weather).

I would like the board to extend the fishing period of the exploratory area to twenty-eight days after the close of the noncore fishery. Allowing fishermen more flexibility to wait for safer weather, should they choose to fish in the exploratory area.

PROPOSED BY: Jared Bright (EF-F20-068)

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PROPOSAL 196

5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

Reduce the commercial golden king crab pot limit in waters of Registration Area A from 100 pots per vessel to 80 pots per vessel, as follows:

5 AAC 34.125(b)(2) is amended to read:

(b)(2) when the commercial golden king crab season is open in Registration Area A, and the commercial red king crab or Tanner crab season is closed, no more than **80** [100] king crab pots may be operated from a vessel registered to fish for king crab;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A golden king crab pot reduction to 80 pots would mirror the pot limit currently in regulation for the Tanner crab fishery, which has the same start date as the golden king crab fishery. Reducing the number of pots in the fishery will ease fishing pressure on the Southeast Alaskan golden king crab stock and improve management precision in targeting fishery area guideline harvest levels.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-152)

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PROPOSAL 197

5 AAC 35.113. Registration Area A Tanner crab harvest strategy.

Modify Tanner crab harvest strategy definition of core, non-core, and exploratory areas, as follows:

5 AAC 35.113(b) (2) (c) (2,3).

(b)(2) at the end of the initial period, the core areas will close to fishing, and the noncore and exploratory areas will remain open for an additional five days. After the noncore areas close to fishing, the exploratory areas will remain open for an additional fourteen days. After the inside exploratory areas close to fishing, the exclusive economic zone exploratory area will remain open for an additional fourteen days.

(c)(2) "noncore areas" include the following waters in Registration area A:
(any statistical area determined not to have had any pots hauled in the 3 previous years)

(3) "exploratory areas" include all waters of Alaska in those portions of districts in Registration Area A that are not described in (1) or (2) of this subsection and in the exclusive economic zone.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current harvest strategy for Tanner crab in registration area A is not meeting the ADF&G goal of optimized economic benefit from fish resources. The core, noncore, and exploratory areas, as currently defined, leave many districts, sub districts, and stat areas of registration area A unfished.

In order to reach the goal of optimized economic benefit any statistical area in the "noncore area" that has been fished in the last three years should be defined as a "noncore area"(in the same way the "core areas" are specifically defined), and any statistical area in the "noncore area" that has not been fished in the last three years should be redefined as "exploratory area", and remain open fourteen days after the "noncore areas" close.

Registration area A is a very large area. In a vessel that makes 8 knots it would take 50+/- hours, depending on the tide/wind, to drive from one end to the other. Many fisherman end up fishing "non core areas" close to where they fished in the "core areas" to avoid losing too much fishing time. Redefining the "noncore areas" that are currently not getting fished to "exploratory areas" and giving fishermen extra time to fish them, would help ADF&G reach its goal of optimizing benefit from the registration area A tanner crab fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Jared Bright (EF-F20-069)

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PROPOSAL 198

5 AAC 35.110. Fishing seasons for Registration Area A.

Establish fixed start date for the Registration Area A commercial Tanner crab fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 35.110. Fishing seasons for Registration Area A. (a) Male Tanner Crab may be taken only from 12:00 noon February 20, as announced by emergency order, through May 1.

(b) Leave as currently Written

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like the board to address the issue of a floating start date for the tanner/golden crab fishery. Industry asked for board to adopt current regulation when the golden crab stocks were robust to help with gear being "up" from the tides for hauling and reducing gear tangles. I have 2 main reasons for wanting this regulation changed,

1: Insurance on vessel. The insurance pool our boat is in allows for hull & crew to be insured in 2 week installments with the monthly split on the 15th. With a later fixed start date we and those with similar policies could reduce operating cost when profit margins are getting tighter and tighter.

2: Conflicts between meetings, family travel, and prospect fishing. For those of us that like to go prospect fishing the current regulation makes it difficult to do so if the "start" date falls in the

earlier part of the time line allowed. This board meeting is a prime example of such conflict, go "look" around or attend meeting to convey this time conflict. With a spouse and children in the public school system their year usually starts on 2nd Monday so if returning from family trip and helping them get back in the "groove" I'm unable to prospect.

When getting feedback from other permit holders and the Dept. on proposing such a change there were a few issues that could arise. Under current regulation of starting at smallest tide set makes chances of a weather associated with bigger tides a possibility. I don't want the board to change or omit section (b) of current regulation, this is a great tool for dept. to use in helping conduct a safe fishery. The dept. had a concern if fishery started to late and stocks rebounded to warrant longer fishing seasons we might start getting close to spring crab breeding cycle. Industry also brought forth a concern where if too late a start date might make it difficult to switch over to herring or halibut/sablefish in a timely matter. Smaller vessels can't carry their whole string and have to shuttle gear out for wet storage before season. Depending on weather I feel 5 days after vessel comes off lay up insurance should give a window for allowing for this. I would like to see the board adopt a change in regulation to a start date of the 20th of February.

PROPOSED BY: Joe Willis (EF-F20-052)

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PROPOSAL 199

5 AAC 34.128. Operation of other gear in Registration Area A.

Allow operation of personal use, subsistence, or sport Dungeness crab and shrimp pot gear during the commercial king or Tanner crab fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 34.128. Operation of other gear in Registration Area A.

(a) A person or vessel that operates commercial, subsistence, personal use, or sport pots or ring nets, other than [COMMERCIAL] shrimp pots or Dungeness crab pots, during the 30 days immediately before the scheduled opening date of the commercial king crab season in Registration Area A may not participate in that king crab fishery.

(b) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 31.053(d), 5 AAC 32.053(d), and 5 AAC 34.053(2), a person or vessel may operate [COMMERCIAL] shrimp pots or Dungeness crab pots during an open king crab season in Registration Area A if the [COMMERCIAL] shrimp or Dungeness crab season is open in Registration Area A at the same time as the commercial king crab season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? At this time it is not legal for a person participating in a commercial king or tanner crab fishery to fish shrimp or Dungeness crab for personal sport or subsistence. At the same time it is legal to do so commercially. It is highly unlikely that a person could harvest legal Tanner or King crab in a shrimp or Dungeness pot. Catch of king or tanner crab in this type of gear is highly unlikely. As written this regulation is only limiting persons from harvesting a resource for their own use.

PROPOSED BY: Yancey Nilsen and Nels Otness (EF-F20-007)

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PROPOSAL 200

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A. and 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Close the Dungeness crab commercial and nonresident sport fisheries in the vicinity of Klawock, as follows:

The taking of Dungeness crab by non-residents and commercial Dungeness crab fishermen: in the waters near and surrounding Klawock; east of Entrance Point at 55 31.200N, -133 07.627W extending to a point in Shinaku Inlet at 55 34.721N, -133 13.382W will be closed.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Close the waters to non-resident fishing & commercial fishing for Dungeness crab east of Entrance Point at 55 31.200N, -133 07.627W extending to a point in Shinaku Inlet at 55 34.721N, -133 13.382W.

Klawock has a large tourist population which flood the waters directly in front of Klawock Inlet, Shinaku Inlet, and Big Salt Lake with crab pot gear. The tourists deploy gear in the immediate area surrounding Klawock, they then leave the area of Klawock and Craig to sport fish in outside waters. The non-resident fishermen check their crab pots when they return to the immediate surrounding waters. Community members of Klawock continue to see the non-resident tourists fish their limits of Dungeness crab pots. Residents of Klawock continue to have direct competition with the non-resident tourists during the summer months as well as the commercial Dungeness crab fishermen during the fall and winter months. Klawock residents are seeking an exceedingly small area surrounding Klawock for a subsistence only area. Klawock is a small community with limited amenities and employment opportunities. A small area closed to both commercial Dungeness fishermen and sport fishermen will allow a sustainable biomass to be harvested by Klawock subsistence fishermen to supplement the high cost of living and depressed economy on Prince of Wales Island. The non-resident sport fishermen would not be impacted by this small closed fishing area as they can go a short distance in closed waters to safely deploy sport fish Dungeness crab pots.

PROPOSED BY: Klawock Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-059)

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PROPOSAL 201

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A.

Expand closed water boundary lines for the Dungeness crab commercial fishery in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area during the summer season, as follows:

In accordance with 5 AAC 32.150, points 3 & 4 are moved northward and extend between Baranof Island to Chichagof Island only during the summer commercial crab fishery (June 15th – August 15th). Points 4 is moved to Nismeni point on Baranof Island (57 33 45 N, 135 24 52 W), and point 3 would be moved to Chichagof Island (57 31 18 N, 135 34 41 W). Sport Dungeness crab fishing and retention in this area is allowed and the bag limits do not change as written in sport fishing regulations.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The opportunity to harvest Dungeness crab for sport anglers in the Sitka area during summer months when the commercial fishery is being prosecuted is extremely limited without locals spending significant expense for fuel, bait, and effort. The reduction in opportunity for sport anglers is likely exacerbated in areas where sea otters are found, and as a greater number of commercial Dungeness crab permit holders have shifted effort to the Sitka area. Spring Dungeness crab opportunity is impacted during this time because many otherwise legal crab are molting and are not retained by sport anglers. During the summer months when there are a greater proportion of quality crabs (non-molting), locals sport anglers may catch many crab in each pot, but the proportion of legal males with a carapace equal to or greater than 6.5 inches are in very low proportion due to the commercial harvest effort. To ameliorate this, I suggest that the Board of Fish move the summer commercial crab boundary. The northern boundary would be between Nismeni Point on Baranof Island, and would extend west to Chichagof Island.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-086)

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PROPOSAL 202

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A.

Reduce waters closed to Dungeness crab commercial fishing in Tenakee Inlet, as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 32.150(2) as follows: "waters of Tenakee Inlet north of 57. 46' N. lat. and between 135. 06.50' W. long. and 135 18.18' W. long."

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The closed waters described in AAC 32.150(2) exceed the needs of a community of fewer than 150 people. These waters have become a honeypot for yacht charters.

PROPOSED BY: Peter Roddy (EF-F20-092)

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PROPOSAL 203

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A.

Repeal closed waters for Dungeness crab commercial fishing in Merrifield Bay and Port Protection, as follows:

Repeal 5 AAC 32.150(3).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Port Althorp is closed to commercial Dungeness crab fishing. Elohim Cove, the nearest post office, has a population of fewer than 25 people. This past February there were fewer than ten residents. There are, in fact, as many commercial lodges catering to non-residents as there are residents. Reserving the crab resource for the benefit of non-residents cannot be justified.

PROPOSED BY: Peter Roddy (EF-F20-082)

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PROPOSAL 204

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Close the Dungeness crab sport fishery in the vicinity of Coffman Cove, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(i)(3)In the Prince of Wales Island vicinity – Dungeness crab may not be taken in the waters of Coffman Cove south and west of a line extending from a point at 56'01.348'N lat., 132'49.673"W long, to a point located at 56"01.711'N lat., 132'51.008'W long.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Coffman Cove have a large tourist population who flood the waters directly in front of Coffman Cove. The tourists then leave Coffman Cove in their boats to fish the waters outside Coffman Cove and check their Dungeness crab pots when they return. The non-resident tourists' fish their limits of Dungeness crab pots. Residents of Coffman Cove continue to have direct competition between the non-resident tourists during the summer months as well as the commercial Dungeness crab fishermen. Local Residents are seeking a very small area directly in front the City of Coffman Cove for a subsistence only area. Coffman Cove is a small community with mostly seasonal based employment. A small area closed to both commercial Dungeness crab fishing and sport fishing will allow a sustainable biomass to be harvested by Coffman Cove subsistence fisherman to supplement the high cost of living on Prince of Wales Island. The non-resident sport fishermen would not be impacted by this small area closed fishing area as they can go a short distance to deploy their Dungeness crab pots.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-085)

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PROPOSAL 205

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A.

Close waters in Coffman Cove to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab, as follows:

5 AAC 32.150(#) waters Coffman Cove north and west of a line extending from a point at 56'05.806'N lat., 133'06.520"W long, to a point located at 56"05.616'N lat., 133'07.333'W long.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Coffman Cove have commercial Dungeness crab fisherman adjacent to their community. The commercial Dungeness crab fleet has seen an increased in sea otters in other areas of Southeast Alaska and very low numbers of Dungeness crab in those areas. During commercial Dungeness crab season, some commercial Dungeness crab fishermen insist that they shall fish directly adjacent to Coffman Cove and in direct competition with the residents of Coffman Cove. Coffman Cove is a small community with mostly seasonal employment. A small area closed to taking Dungeness crab commercially continue to allow a sustainable biomass to be harvested by Coffman Cove subsistence fisherman to supplement the high cost of living on Prince of Wales Island. At the same time, with the high non-resident summer tourist population in Coffman Cove, a separate proposal has been submitted to close an area to sport fishing for Dungeness crab. The commercial Dungeness crab fleet would not be impacted by this small closed fishing area.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-086)
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PROPOSAL 206

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Close the Dungeness crab sport fishery in the vicinity of Whale Pass, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(i)(3)In the Prince of Wales Island vicinity – Dungeness crab may not be taken in the waters near Whale Pass north and west of a line extending from a point at 56'05.806'N lat., 133'06.520"W long, to a point located at 56"05.616'N lat., 133'07.333'W long.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Whale Pass has a large tourist population which floods the waters directly in front of the residences of Whale Pass. Members of Whale Pass continue to see these non-resident tourists' fish their limits of Dungeness crab pots as well as check other people's pots in the vicinity. Residents of Whale Pass continue to have direct competition between the non-resident tourists during the summer months as well as the commercial Dungeness crab fishermen in the fall and winter months. Local Residents are seeking a very small area directly in front the City of Whale Pass for a subsistence only area. Whale Pass is a small community with very few jobs and amenities. A small area closed to both commercial Dungeness crab fishing and sport fishing will allow a sustainable biomass to be harvested by Whale Pass subsistence fisherman to supplement the high cost of living and depressed economy on Prince of Wales Island. The non-resident sport fishermen would not be impacted by this small area closed fishing area as they can go a short distance (furthest distance is a mile) in protected waters to deploy sport fish Dungeness crab pots.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-084)
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PROPOSAL 207

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A.

Close waters in Whale Pass to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab, as follows:

5 AAC 32.150(#) waters of Whale Pass north and west of a line extending from a point at 56'05.806'N lat., 133'06.520"W long, to a point located at 56"05.616'N lat., 133'07.333'W long.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Whale Pass have commercial Dungeness crab fishermen directly in front of their homes during the fall Dungeness crab season as permitted under 5 AAC 32.110(2)(B). The commercial Dungeness crab fleet has seen an increased in sea otters in other areas of Southeast Alaska and very low numbers of Dungeness crab in those areas. During the fall and winter months some commercial Dungeness crab fishermen insist that they shall fish directly in Whale Pass and in direct competition with the residents of Whale Pass. Whale Pass is a small community with very few jobs and amenities. A small increase to the area closed to taking Dungeness crab commercially year round will continue to allow a sustainable biomass to be harvested by Whale Pass subsistence fisherman to supplement

the high cost of living and depressed economy on Prince of Wales Island. At the same time, with the high summer population of tourists in Whale Pass, a separate proposal has been submitted to close the same area to sport fishing for Dungeness crab. The commercial Dungeness crab fleet would not be impacted by this small area closed fishing area.

If this proposal is enacted, 5 AAC 32.110(2)(B) could be repealed.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-080)
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PROPOSAL 208
5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A.
Close waters in Kasaan Bay to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab, as follows:

5 AAC 32.150(#) waters of Kasaan Bay north of a line that stretches from Adams Point located at 55'32.921'N lat., 132'26.426"W long, to Mound Point located at 55"34.508'N lat., 132'33.957'W long.;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The residents of Kasaan have continued to see an increased presence of commercial Dungeness crab fisherman in Kasaan Bay. The commercial Dungeness crab fleet has seen an increased in sea otters in other areas of Southeast Alaska and very low numbers of Dungeness crab in those areas. During the summer of 2019, a sea otter was observed for the first time in Kasaan Bay. A small increase to the area closed to taking Dungeness crab commercially will continue to allow a sustainable biomass to be harvested by subsistence fisherman to supplement the high cost of living and depressed economy on Prince of Wales Island. The commercial Dungeness crab fleet would not be impacted by this small closed fishing area.

PROPOSED BY: East Prince of Wales Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-079)
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PROPOSAL 209
5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Reduce the number of crab pots allowed and the Dungeness crab bag limit for nonresident anglers in District 3, as follows:

Reduce non-resident crab pot in-possession limit in District 3 to four (4) pots per vessel, two (2) crab pots per person with a daily harvest limit of two (2) legal sized male crab per day.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Harvest of shellfish has become a challenge for rural Alaska residents. Reducing non-resident crab pot in-possession limit and harvest limit will help increase biomass for sustained harvesting for Alaskan Residents.

PROPOSED BY: Klawock Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-057)
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PROPOSAL 210

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in registration Area A.

Establish waters closed to commercial fishing for Dungeness crab in Sukwaan Strait, as follows:

5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in registration Area A; the following waters will be closed to the taking of Dungeness crab.

(19)

EXCLUDING SUKWAAN STRAITS FROM ROUND POINT 55*.125064; -132.688544 ACROSS TO EEK POINT 55*13770; -132.666874 NORTH TO THE HEAD OF NATZUHINI BAY 55*270024; -132.849299 EXTENDING WEST TO THE OPENINGS OF NORTH PASS 55*210175; -132961267 TO 55*207138; -132938232 AND SOUTH PASS 55.168517; -132.893346 TO 55*.163067;-132890543.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Hydaburg has a long history of utilizing and protecting the local crab stocks. In recent years, declines in other areas of southeast has moved commercial crab boats into the local area. Couple this with a huge surge in sea otters to the area, we are seeing a drastic impact to the local crab stocks. We need to close the area to the commercial fishery to protect the stock for the local users to still provide an opportunity to participate in the personal use and sport fishery. The Prince of Wales area has seen a drastic decline in Dungeness crab due to predation by sea otters, with most communities unable to get crab in customary and traditional areas. It is imperative that we close these areas to protect a limited stock.

PROPOSED BY: Anthony Christianson (EF-F20-056)

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PROPOSAL 211

5 AAC 32.110. Fishing seasons for Registration Area A.

Repeal and amend Dungeness crab fishing season in Sitka Sound Special Use Area, as follows:

Repeal AAC 32.110(2)(A).
Amend AAC 110(2)(C) to read “Section 13-B.”

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The season in 13-B was shortened by the Board at a meeting where Sitka’s representative went rogue and disobeyed the advisory committee’s instructions.

PROPOSED BY: Peter Roddy (EF-F20-097)

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PROPOSAL 212

5 AAC 32.052. Dungeness crab pot gear storage requirements.

Extend pot storage allowance after fishery closure, as follows:

Amend regulation to allow at least 7 days to remove pots from water following the Nov. 30 closure in Area A.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? As written regulation does not allow a reasonable amount of time to remove stored pots from the water following the November 30 closure in most of Registration Area A. The regulations should be amended to allow at least 7 days to remove pots from the water. This would be consistent with the time allowed at the August 15 closure.

PROPOSED BY: Peter Roddy (EF-F20-100)

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PROPOSAL 213

5 AAC 32.052. Dungeness crab pot gear storage requirements.

Extend pot storage allowance after fishery closure, as follows:

5 AAC 32.052(2). Amend language to allow a minimum 7 days storage following the non-emergency closure of Districts 3-16.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? As written this regulation provides 7 days in water storage following the closure of the summer crab season in Area A but only 3 December days following the closure of the fall season in 14 of the 16 districts of Area A.

PROPOSED BY: Peter Roddy (EF-F20-102)

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PROPOSAL 214

5 AAC 32.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

Clarify that Dungeness crab pots are circular in shape, as follows:

5 AAC 32.125(f) is amended to read:

(f) In addition to the requirements specified in 5 AAC 32.050, a commercial Dungeness crab pot is a **circular** pot that has an outside diameter that is not more than 50 inches and is not more than 18 inches high.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Despite current regulation stating that a Dungeness crab pot size is limited to a maximum outside diameter, some confusion remains as to whether commercial Dungeness crab pots can be anything other than a circular pot. This language, along with requirements specified in 5 AAC 32.050, clarifies that Dungeness crab pots are circular in shape with vertical sides.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-151)

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Groundfish

PROPOSAL 215

5 AAC 28.110. Sablefish fishing seasons for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Align state waters sablefish fishing season with federal sablefish fishing season, as follows:

The Board will link the seasons for Black Cod and IFQ fisheries so that they open and close at same time.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Would like to request the Board of Fish open and close the Black Cod Fishery at the same times they allocate for the IFQ fishery. Thus giving more opportunities to people who participate in other fisheries, allowing them to adjust their schedules.

PROPOSED BY: John Johanson (EF-F20-081)

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PROPOSAL 216

5 AAC 28.110. Sablefish fishing seasons for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Extend sablefish fishing season to December 15, as follows:

The Black Cod Pot Fishery will be extended to end on December 15th instead of November 15th.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Would like to request that the Board of Fish extend the black cod fisheries instead of ending November 15th, extending the fishery until December 15th. By extending the season, fishermen would be able to participate in salmon fall seasons, giving them more time to catch their quota before end of the year.

PROPOSED BY: John Johanson (HQ-F20-043)

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PROPOSAL 217

5 AAC 28.165. Lingcod allocation guidelines for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Adjust lingcod bycatch allocations between groundfish and salmon fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 28.165. Lingcod allocation guidelines for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area

(5) Southern Southeast Outer Coast Sector:

(D) **two** [SEVEN] percent to bycatch in the commercial groundfish fishery using hand troll gear and mechanical jigging machines;

(E) **seven** [TWO] percent to bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The lingcod bycatch allocation for the commercial salmon troll fishery in the Southern Southeast Outer Coast Sector (SSEOC) is insufficient for the fisheries needs. Currently it stands at 2% of the overall lingcod quota for the (SSEOC) area, where in other areas of Southeast Alaska the troll bycatch allocation is 7-8%.

With such a small allocation, the retention of lingcod in the commercial salmon troll fishery in the SSEOC area often closes well before the end of the summer troll season. This forces the troll fleet

to release lingcod caught after the bycatch allowance is met and miss opportunity to retain valuable fish.

Solution:
Transfer 5 of the 7 percent of the lingcod allocated to the commercial groundfish jig fishery, to the commercial salmon troll fishery in the SSEOC sector.

Reasoning:
The lingcod allocated to the commercial groundfish jig fishery in the Southern Southeast Outer Coast Sector (SSEOC) currently stands at 7% of the GHR (guideline harvest range). This has equated to 11,690 round pounds of lingcod per year since 2003.

From 2003 through 2019, a total of only 79 lbs. of lingcod has been landed in the commercial groundfish jig fishery in the SSEOC area.

Transferring 5 of the 7 percent from the commercial groundfish jig fishery to the commercial salmon troll fishery would be a far better use of the lingcod resource.

This would provide a sufficient bycatch allocation of lingcod to the commercial salmon troll fishery in the SSEOC area and still leave the commercial groundfish jig fishery with a lingcod allocation that would more than satisfy the historic needs of that fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-003)
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PROPOSAL 218
5 AAC 28.106. Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area registration.
Establish registration requirements for the Pacific cod directed fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 28.106 (a) is amended to read:

(a) The Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area is a nonexclusive registration area for Pacific cod[.] **and notwithstanding 5 AAC 28.020(a), before a person uses a vessel to operate gear to take Pacific cod in a directed Pacific cod fishery in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, the vessel owner or the owner's agent shall register the vessel with the department by completing a registration form with the vessel's name, management areas the vessel will be fishing in, contact number, and the signature of the owner or owner's agent.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulatory language does not require directed Pacific cod fishermen to register their vessel prior to fishing. If vessels were required to register, it would help ensure successful management of the fishery by providing an accurate number of vessels fishing and their intentions for delivery. This would assist with scheduling staff for port sampling landings to collect biological information such as length, weight, sex, and age that is used to inform stock health and resulting management decisions. Without registrations, the department does not have a full accounting of vessels participating in the fishery prior to landings, and this can result in either underharvest or overharvest within a management area. Requiring

registrations for the directed Pacific cod fishery will also create consistency among directed groundfish fishery requirements, which include requiring vessel registrations for each fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-154)
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PROPOSAL 219
5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.
Clarify lawful gear for rockfish retention, as follows:

5 AAC 28.130 (d) is amended to read:

(d) In the Southeast District,

(1) [EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ROCKFISH AND] lingcod may be taken only by longline, dinglebar troll gear, power troll gear, hand troll gear, and mechanical jigging machines, except that

[(A) IN A DIRECTED FISHERY FOR PELAGIC SHELF ROCKFISH, PELAGIC SHELF ROCKFISH MAY BE TAKEN ONLY BY DINGLEBAR TROLL GEAR, HAND TROLL GEAR, AND MECHANICAL JIGGING MACHINES;] **repealed.**

(B) in a directed fishery for lingcod, lingcod may be taken only by dinglebar troll gear, hand troll gear, and mechanical jigging machines;

…

(3) Pacific cod, **rockfish,** and thornyhead rockfish may be taken only by longline, dinglebar troll gear, power troll gear, hand troll gear, mechanical jigging machines, and pots[;]**, except that**

(A) in a directed fishery for pelagic shelf rockfish, pelagic shelf rockfish may be taken only by dinglebar troll gear, hand troll gear, and mechanical jigging machines;

(B) in a directed fishery for demersal shelf rockfish, demersal shelf rockfish may be taken only by longline, dinglebar troll gear, hand troll gear, and mechanical jigging machines

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations do not allow for retention of rockfish species by pot gear. Because most hook and line, pot, and jig vessels are unobserved, full retention and reporting are necessary to account for total mortality of rockfish and to improve management of rockfish. Allowing retention of all rockfish in pot gear, as specified above, will provide the department with better catch information and reduce wastage, which occurs when rockfish are discarded at sea.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-156)
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PROPOSAL 220
5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska.
Allow pot gear in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish commercial fishery, as follows:

(f) In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, pots may not be longlined, except that pots may be longlined in the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict ***and Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict*** sablefish fishery. At least one buoy on each groundfish pot must be legibly marked with only the permanent department vessel license plate number of the vessel operating the gear. The number must be placed on the top one-third of the buoy in numerals at least four inches high and one-half inch wide, must be in a color contrasting to the color of the buoy, and must be visible above the water surface when the buoy is attached to the groundfish pot. If groundfish pots are longlined under this subsection, a buoy is not required for each pot, but at least one buoy must be attached to the longline, and the buoy must be marked as described in this subsection. In a directed fishery for sablefish, pots used to take sablefish must have at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of four inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I am proposing the introduction of longline pot gear in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish fishery as is allowed in the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish fishery.

The careful release of juvenile sablefish is currently allowed in the NSEI fishery. Pot longlining for sablefish in NSEI would allow release of small sablefish with less physical damage to the fish than release from circle hooks. Pot fishing also eliminates the problem of sand fleas in the NSEI area. Another advantage to pot fishing is the elimination of potential depredation from sperm whales.

Some have speculated that there would be a gear conflict with hook longliners if pot longlining was permitted in NSEI. With the long season for catching the allowable catch this is not likely a problem. Last year when my husband, son and I fished our permit in late August, we were the only NSEI fishers in our area. Our pot strings are much shorter than hook longlines (400 fathoms for pot longline vs 2,250 fathoms for hook longlines) making gear conflict less likely between pot/hook strings if there were multiple fishers in one area.

PROPOSED BY: Dawn Gillman (EF-F20-035)

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PROPOSAL 221

5 AAC 28.130. Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Reduce the minimum inside diameter of circular escape rings from four inches to three and three-fourths of an inch on pots used to take sablefish, as follows:

5 AAC 28.130 (f) is amended to read:

(f) In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, pots may not be longlined, except that pots may be longlined in the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish fishery. At least one buoy on each groundfish pot must be legibly marked with only the permanent department vessel license plate number of the vessel operating the gear. The number must be placed on the top one-third of the buoy in numerals at least four inches high and one-half inch wide, must be in a color contrasting to the color of the buoy, and must be visible above the water surface when the buoy is attached to the groundfish pot. If groundfish pots are longlined under this subsection, a buoy is not required

for each pot, but at least one buoy must be attached to the longline, and the buoy must be marked as described in this subsection. In a directed fishery for sablefish, pots used to take sablefish must have at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of [FOUR INCHES] **three and three-fourths inches** installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulatory language is based on estimated length at 50% maturity (L_{50}) of sablefish (63 cm) in the Northern and Southern Southeast Inside Subdistricts and supplemental research from British Columbia, Canada, which has a minimum escape ring size of 3.5 inches and a L_{50} of 55 cm. The proposed regulatory modification to reduce the minimum inside diameter of the escape ring size from 4 inches to 3.75 inches is based on results of an escape ring experiment conducted during the department's sablefish marking pot survey in 2019. The optimal escape ring size results in low catches of immature sablefish while maintaining high catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of mature sablefish. To analyze the impact of escape rings on capture efficiency and size-selectivity of sablefish, pots with three alternative escape ring sizes (3.5, 3.75, and 4.0 inches) were evaluated alongside control pots with no escape rings. The results of this study indicated that pots with 3.75-inch escape rings minimized catches of small, immature fish, thus reducing discard mortality, and maximized catches of larger, more desirable fish. Escape rings greater than 3.75 inches may not provide any additional benefits.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-158)

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PROPOSAL 222

5 AAC 28.171. Rockfish possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Require CFEC permit holders fishing for groundfish or halibut using hook-and-line, pot, or jig gear in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area to retain and land all rockfish, including thornyhead rockfish, as follows:

5 AAC 28.171 (a), (b), (f), and (g) are amended to read:

(a) In the **Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area** [SOUTHEAST DISTRICT], a CFEC permit holder fishing for groundfish or halibut must retain, weigh, and report all **rockfish and thornyhead rockfish caught** [DEMERSAL SHELF ROCKFISH TAKEN]. Except as provided in (b) of this section, all demersal shelf rockfish in excess of 10 percent, round weight, of all target species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. **All rockfish and thornyhead rockfish in excess of allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket.** All proceeds from the sale of excess [DEMERSAL SHELF] rockfish **and thornyhead rockfish** bycatch shall be surrendered to the state. Based on harvest data, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close a fishing season or a bycatch season and immediately reopen a fishing season or a bycatch season during which a different [DEMERSAL SHELF] rockfish **or thornyhead rockfish** bycatch level is allowed.

(b) In the **Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area** [SOUTHEAST DISTRICT], a person operating a trawl vessel shall retain, weigh, and report all [DEMERSAL SHELF] rockfish **and thornyhead rockfish caught** [TAKEN]. All demersal shelf rockfish in excess of one percent, round weight,

of all target species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket. **All rockfish and thornyhead rockfish in excess of allowable bycatch limits shall be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket.** All proceeds from the sale of excess [DEMERSAL SHELF] rockfish **and thornyhead rockfish** bycatch shall be surrendered to the state.

…

(f) [IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF (A) OF THIS SECTION, IN THE NORTHERN SOUTHEAST INSIDE AND SOUTHERN SOUTHEAST INSIDE SUBDISTRICTS, A CFEC PERMIT HOLDER FISHING FOR GROUNDFISH OR HALIBUT MUST RETAIN, WEIGH, AND REPORT ALL ROCKFISH TAKEN. ALL ROCKFISH IN EXCESS OF ALLOWABLE BYCATCH LIMITS SHALL BE REPORTED AS BYCATCH OVERAGE ON AN ADF&G FISH TICKET. ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF EXCESS ROCKFISH BYCATCH SHALL BE SURRENDERED TO THE STATE.] **Repealed.**

(g) [IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF (A) OF THIS SECTION, IN THE EASTERN GULF OF ALASKA AREA, A CFEC PERMIT HOLDER FISHING FOR GROUNDFISH OR HALIBUT MUST RETAIN, WEIGH, AND REPORT ALL BLACK ROCKFISH TAKEN. ALL BLACK ROCKFISH IN EXCESS OF ALLOWABLE BYCATCH LIMITS SHALL BE REPORTED AS BYCATCH OVERAGE ON AN ADF&G FISH TICKET. ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF EXCESS ROCKFISH BYCATCH SHALL BE SURRENDERED TO THE STATE.] **Repealed.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This proposal mirrors federal rockfish retention requirements to provide better estimates of rockfish catch, reduce waste and incentives to discard, and maintain consistency between state and federal fisheries management. Rockfish have a closed swim bladder and suffer embolism mortality when caught. Many rockfish are discarded at sea. The department does not have true accounting of total mortality without full retention requirements in place. Because most hook and line, pot, and jig vessels are unobserved, full retention and reporting are necessary to account for total mortality of rockfish and to improve management of rockfish. Black, dark, and blue rockfish and demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) are managed by the State of Alaska in both state and federal waters, and current regulations require full retention of these rockfish only. Requiring full retention of all rockfish in all state waters, as specified above, will provide the department with better catch information; reduce wastage, which occurs when rockfish are discarded at sea; and will mirror new federal rockfish retention regulations, which also include full retention requirements for thornyhead rockfish.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-157)

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PROPOSAL 223

5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications; and 5 AAC 77.674. Personal use bottomfish fishery.

Establish and clarify gear specifications of a groundfish pot for the subsistence and personal use sablefish fisheries, as follows:

5 AAC 01.720 (5) is amended to read:

(5) in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict and Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict, a sablefish permit holder's pot gear must have at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of three and three-fourths inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls and must have individual tunnel eye openings with perimeters 36 inches or less.

5 AAC 77.674 (6) (E) is amended to read:

(E) a permit holder's pot gear

(i) may not exceed two pots per permit holder or eight pots per vessel when four or more permit holders are present; [AND]

(ii) may not be longlined**; and** [.]

(iii) must have at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of three and three-fourths inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls and must have individual tunnel eye openings with perimeters 36 inches or less.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulatory language loosely defines legal pot gear for the subsistence and personal use sablefish fisheries. Incorporating an escape ring size of three and three-fourths inches into subsistence and personal use pot gear would significantly reduce the catch of small, immature sablefish and would maintain the catch of larger and more mature sablefish. Requiring individual tunnel eye openings with perimeters 36 inches or less would reduce halibut and sleeper shark bycatch. These requirements would protect immature sablefish from discard mortality and would help secure the future viability of the fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F20-153)

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PROPOSAL 224

5 AAC 77.674. Personal use bottomfish fishery.

Allow rod and reel as lawful gear to harvest rockfish for personal use, as follows:

Allow rod and reel for personal use of rockfish. It's hard to us seniors to pull a skate.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Residents can't retain rockfish by using a rod and reel. Resident have a low impact on rockfish and should be able to use a rod and reel for personal use.

PROPOSED BY: Randall Jahnke (HQ-F20-076)

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PROPOSAL 225

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Modify sablefish bag, possession, and nonresident annual limits based on sablefish abundance in NSEI and SSEI sections, as follows:

5 AAC 47.020 (17)(A) resident: **Set** bag limit of four fish; possession limit of four fish; no size limit; **no** annual limit [OF EIGHT FISH] as a baseline. **Increase baseline limits by one fish when ABC reaches 1M pounds and thereafter an additional one fish for every 100,000 pounds over 1M with a cap of six fish daily; possession limit of six fish; no size limit; no annual limit.**

5 AAC 47.020 (17)(B) nonresident: **Set** bag limit of four fish; possession limit of four fish; no size limit; annual limit of eight fish; **as a baseline. Increase baseline limits by one fish when ABC reaches 1M pounds and thereafter an additional one fish for every 100,000 pounds over 1M with a cap of six fish daily; possession limit of six fish; no size limit ; annual limit of twelve fish.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Commercial sablefish ABC (Allowable Biological Catch) in the NSEI (Northern Southeast Inside) Subdistrict and SSEI (Southern Southeast Inside) Subdistrict have shown an increase in recent years, while resident and non-resident sport anglers bag limits have not changed since they were originally established in 2009. Recreational angler opportunity should be linked to abundance as done with the commercial sablefish AHO (Allowable Harvest Opportunity). A cap in bag limits would ensure sport harvest would not exceed sport/commercial allocation percentages similar to that of other sport fish species.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Charter Association (HQ-F20-004)
**Proposal 225 was corrected 11/16/2020 to remove the eight fish resident annual limit.*
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PROPOSAL 226
5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Establish bag and possession limit for slope rockfish, as follows:

5 AAC 47.020 **(8) (C) slope rockfish: bag limit of one fish; possession limit of one fish; no annual limit; no size limit;**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Establish in regulation a bag limit for slope rockfish.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Charter Association (HQ-F20-005)
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PROPOSAL 227
5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Reduce the nonpelagic rockfish bag and possession limits and prohibit retention of yellow rockfish, as follows:

Non-pelagic rockfish: bag limit of 1 fish; possession limit of 2 fish; of which none may be yelloweye.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The harvest of all non-pelagic rockfish species was closed by emergency order in the Southeast Alaska sport fishery during 2020. The closure was based on survey data indicating a decline in yelloweye abundance. There is no survey data indicating a decline in other non-pelagic species such as copper, quillback, canary, vermillion, silvergray, bocacio, etc. which are commonly caught sport fishing and are all excellent table fare. Anglers commonly catch all species of non-pelagic rockfish and the inability to harvest species other than yelloweye is a lost opportunity to the sport fishery. The mandatory use of deep water release mechanisms will significantly reduce release mortality of incidentally caught yelloweye and other rockfish that are not harvested. ADFG passed an emergency order for 2020 allowing the harvest of Slope Rockfish (Bocacio, Silvergray, Vermillion, Rougheye, Shortraker, Redstripe, etc.) The emergency order also outlines exactly which Demersal Shelf Rockfish you cannot harvest during 2020 (Yelloweye, China, Copper, Quillback, Tiger and Canary.)

Total Sport Harvest of non-pelagic rockfish removal in kilograms (harvest and release mortality estimates) for Southeast Outside waters has averaged approximately 48,000 kilograms in the last 10 years (2009-2018).

Northern Southeast Outside waters has averaged approximately 6,000kgs. which is 12% of the harvest.

Central Southeast Outside (CSEO-Sitka) has averaged approximately 30,600kg. which is 64% of the harvest.

Southern Southeast Outside (SSEO-W. POW) has averaged approximately 11,600kg. which is 24% of the harvest.

Yelloweye rockfish has been the preferred species of non-pelagic harvest and has also been the majority of harvest followed by quillback and copper.

This proposal will allow anglers to harvest any of the non-pelagic rockfish per day other than Yelloweye. The only non-pelagic species with a conservation concern is Yelloweye. Most anglers on the West side of POW agree that the most abundant non-pelagic rockfish species caught are Quillback. Most anglers also agree that Copper, Canary and China rockfish are all excellent table fare and readily abundant. Without this proposal, anglers will be denied the harvest of Tiger, Quillback, Copper, China and Canary rockfish.

PROPOSED BY: Craig Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F20-040)

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PROPOSAL 228

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Reduce the nonpelagic rockfish bag and possession limits and prohibit the retention of yelloweye rockfish by nonresidents in the SSEI Section, as follows:

5 AAC 47.020
(8) rockfish January 1-December 31

(B) non-pelagic rockfish; bag and possession limit of 1 fish per day; no retention of yelloweye by non-residents in SSEI.

The fishery has been managed under emergency order (EO) for numerous years, so it is unclear how to accurately address existing and proposed specific language, so intent language is provided

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Department has been managing section (8) (B) bag limits for rockfish under EO authority for numerous years, and for the calendar year 2020, has prohibited the retention of nonpelagic rockfish in all waters of southeast. Data used to justify this action is based on commercial harvest records from southeast outside waters, and based on yelloweye rockfish biomass and then applied those findings to all management areas and types of nonpelagic rockfish. Department data shows that the majority of the harvest of yelloweye by sportfishermen is from non-resident harvest. We would like the Department to take a stairstep approach to cutting possession limits, and if necessary due to conservation concerns, have the BOF adopt a differential harvest limit for residents and non-residents. We would also like the Department to gather better data on local stocks by implementing some type of log book requirement for anglers.

PROPOSED BY: Ketchikan Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-046)
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PROPOSAL 229
5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.
Establish lingcod bag, possession, size, and annual limits for nonresidents in the Central Southeast Outside Waters section, as follows:

LINGCOD
• Season: May 16–November 30.
• Charter operators and crew members may not retain lingcod while clients are on board the vessel.
• [NORTHERN] **Central** Southeast **Outside Waters** Lingcod Area:
• Alaska Residents—No size limit: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
• Nonresidents—1 per day, 1 in possession; [30–35 INCHES] **30 – 45 inches**, or 55 inches and longer, annual limit of 2 fish, one of which is [30–35 INCHES] **30 – 45 inches** in length, and one that is 55 inches or greater in length, harvest record required.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current Lingcod regulations for non-resident anglers in central southeast Alaska outside waters (CSEO) allows harvest of one fish 30-35 inches, and one 55 inches or greater in length. The 30-35 inch slot is very narrow and it is challenging for non-resident's to have an opportunity to harvest a legal Lingcod even over a multiday effort. Harvesting a trophy Lingcod greater than 55 inches is very rare. Department data shows that under the current slot limit (instituted in 2007), that sport harvest in CSEO waters has been under allocation for all years (2007-2019), with the exception of the year 2014 where allocation was reached. Further, the Department has lumped CSEO Lingcod

management with northern southeast Alaska outside waters (NSEO) which is problematic because the NSEO has met or has been over allocation for the years 2003-2006, and 2014. Managing CSEO and NSEO together is likely preventing anglers in the CSEO Lingcod area from meeting harvest allocation and has reduced reasonable opportunity for non-resident anglers.

I propose that in effort to get CSEO sport Lingcod back in line with allocation, and to provide a more reasonable opportunity for non-resident anglers to retain a Lingcod, that the Board of Fish should consider taking the following action, 1) direct the Department to manage CSEO separate from NSEO, 2) increases the slot limit to 30-45 inches in CSEO waters.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-088)
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PROPOSAL 230
5 AAC 47.065. Demersal shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management.
Amend the Demersal shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management to provide a resident priority, as follows:

5 AAC 47.065 - Demersal shelf rockfish delegation.
The most recent year that the resident sport Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR) limits were not overridden by emergency order was 2005. The all-gear TAC in 2000-2005 was 330-450 tons per year. In recent years the all-gear TAC has been down about 40% since that time period. I propose that (unless the resident sport harvest exceeds 10% of the all-gear TAC), residents be assured a bag and possession limit of at least 1 yelloweye and 3 total DSR year-round throughout the region. This is approximately a 50% reduction from the 2 yelloweye and 5 total DSR of the 2005 era. To that accomplish this, I suggest adoption of the following language:

Section 5 AAC 47.065 - Demersal shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management

Under 5 AAC 28.160, the Board of Fisheries has allocated 16 percent of the annual allowable catch of the demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast Outside Subdistrict, described in 5 AAC 28.105(a)(4), to the sport fishery. If the commissioner determines that the demersal shelf rockfish sport fishing regulations must be modified to keep the sport fishery within its allocation, the commissioner may, by emergency order, require one or more of the following management measures:
(1) reduced bag and possession limits for nonresident anglers;
(2) repealed 6/17/2018;
(3) charter operators and crewmembers may not retain demersal shelf rockfish while clients are on board the vessel;
(4) annual limits for demersal shelf rockfish for nonresident anglers;
(5) reduce the bag and possession limits for resident anglers;
(6) repealed 6/17/2018;
(7) annual limits for demersal shelf rockfish for resident anglers;
(8) time and area closures.

Except that unless resident sport anglers would otherwise be expected to account for more than 10% of the total all-gear demersal shelf rockfish allowable catch, provision (5) shall not be used to reduce the bag and possession limits for resident anglers to less than 3 demersal shelf rockfish including 1 yelloweye daily and in possession, nor shall provision (7) be invoked, nor provision (8) be applied to resident anglers.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Over the past fifteen years, resident sport anglers have faced increasingly severe restrictions on DSR--specifically for yelloweye which is the most highly-prized species. The general provision resident bag limit found in 5 AAC 47.020 (8)(B) of 5 DSR --including up to 2 yelloweye, has been overridden by ever-more restrictive Emergency Orders every year since 2006. In 2020 the resident sport DSR season was closed throughout all of Southeast. While in times of lowered abundance all non-subsistence user groups should reduce their harvest to some degree, as a quasi-subsistence fishery that provides locals with fresh fish for the table, the resident sportfishery should be among the last to see severe restrictions. DSR abundance estimates did drop significantly 10-25 years ago, and resident sport bag limits were significantly reduced at that time, but the estimated abundance has remained basically flat since 2016 indicating that recent harvest levels are sustainable.

Unlike the non-resident sport effort, the number of resident anglers in Southeast has been stable for decades and shows no indication of increasing. Hence, under a fixed bag limit the total resident harvest should also be stable except as the result of changes in DSR abundance.

PROPOSED BY: Tad Fujioka (EF-F20-111)

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PROPOSAL 231

5 AAC 75.006. Harvest record for finfish with annual limit. and 5 AAC 47.060. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Amend harvest record recording requirements for lingcod, as follows:

LINGCOD
Season: May 16–November 30.
• Charter operators and crew members may not retain lingcod while clients are on board the vessel.

Northern Southeast Lingcod Area:
• Alaska Residents—No size limit: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
• Nonresidents—1 per day, 1 in possession; 30–35 inches or 55 inches and longer, annual limit of 2 fish, one of which is 30–35 inches in length, and one that is 55 inches or greater in length, harvest record required **including the length of the fish in inches**.

Southern Southeast Lingcod Area
• Alaska Residents—No size limit: 1 per day, 2 in possession.
• Nonresidents—1 per day, 1 in possession; 30–45 inches or 55 inches and longer, annual limit of 2 fish, one of which is 30–45 inches in length, and one that is 55 inches or greater in length, harvest record required **including the length of the fish in inches**.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently, nonresident anglers in central southeast Alaska (CSEO) are allowed one Lingcod 30-35 inches in length, and one 55 inches or greater annually. For non-resident anglers in southern southeast Alaska (SSEO), the slot limit is 30-45 inches, and one greater than 55 inches in length annually. Upon landing/retention of a Lingcod, anglers must record the date of harvest, the area the fish was caught, and the species (Lingcod in this instance). The intent of the current regulation is to provide opportunity to retain Lingcod in an effort to stay within the allocation for sport, while simultaneously providing opportunity for anglers to retain trophy Lingcod (55 inches or greater). The state record Lingcod from 2002 was 68.25 inches long (ADFG Trophy Fish Program), so catching a trophy Lingcod that is greater than 55 inches is likely a unique opportunity. The issue is that there is no enforcement mechanism to prevent non-resident anglers from retaining two Lingcod that are within the slot or two that are greater than 55 inches on separate days. I proposed that when a non-resident harvests a Lingcod in all of southeast Alaska, anglers would be additionally required to write the length of the fish on the back of the license. This proposed regulation change is not onerous for non-resident anglers or charter boat captains because they are already required to measure the fish and make a harvest record on the back of the fishing license. The proposed change would provide the Alaska State Wildlife Troopers with an enforcement mechanism to enforce the current size limits, and likely we would see a further reduction in annual sport harvest of Lingcod which translates into opportunities to modify (increase) the restrictive slot limit.

PROPOSED BY: Sitka Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F20-087)

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PROPOSAL 232

5 AAC 28.1XX. New section.

Create a new spiny dogfish pot fishery in Southeast Alaska, as follows:

Create a new Spiny Dogfish pot fishery in Southeast Alaska with regulations as described below to be determined by ADF&G.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

1. Spiny Dogfish are currently an underutilized fishery.
2. In processing Spiny Dogfish nearly all of the carcass is utilized, (including some organs) except the head. When markets are developed this fishery could provide new revenue streams and opportunities for fishers. processors and communities.
3. Spiny Dogfish tend to travel in large dense packs by size and sex. Longline Spiny Dogfish fisheries in British Columbia's Strait of Georgia have resulted in concerns over the inability to fish selectively, resulting in unwanted harvests of fecund females. A pot fishery could resolve those issues by the fact that the fish are harvested live and can be released unharmed, coupled with regulations on:

    a. Season duration,
    b. Pot limits
    c. Tunnel size
    d. Escapement rings
    e. legal size retention (slot limits)

•It is important to realize from the outset -this is not a hook-and-line proposal, it is a live capture fishery that is being considered;
•Fish will come up live and can be sorted, sized, sexed, and unwanted catch such as fecund females and bycatch, can be released live, reducing mortality of all discards including bycatch;
•It can be managed by, among other things, tunnel ring size, slot limits and pot limits;
•Spiny Dogfish are an underutilized species -there are not too many species left in that category
•If we leave them alone (unexploited) they will proliferate and become a problem across many fisheries and gear types. They are already a problem in some areas of the west coast.
•It will take marketing to create a demand. Finding markets will have its challenges but if there can be a market for Asian Tilapia raised in sewage treatment pools, surely we can sell whitefish filets from our pristine Alaskan waters.
•U.S. fishermen and processors are no strangers to selling fish into foreign markets and Europe might be a good place to start where they are already consuming similar products;
•There are many similarities between Arrowtooth Flounder and Spiny Dogfish. Arrowtooth went largely unexploited, proliferated, and became a problem. Now steps are being taken to harvest, process and market them. Arrowtooth fillets in a New York supermarket selling at $12.00 a pound.
•Although there is the possibility to obtain a Commissioner's Permit the process can be cumbersome and daunting to most fishermen, whereas if there is a fishery on the books, fishermen and processors are more likely to take advantage of it.

In summary: Our hope is that by starting a discussion now we may be able to get out ahead of this one, not trying to play catch-up after it has become a problem as with Arrowtooth.

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie (HQ-F20-028)
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