

## **PROPOSAL 104**

### **5 AAC 21.XXX. New Section.**

Adopt a new Kenai River late-run king salmon management plan for the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery as follows:

A 4-Part plan including a **Total Allowable Catch (TAC)** of chinook salmon, **Fishermen Managed Memorandum of Understanding, New Gear Types, and New Harvest Areas.**

The **TAC** is to be based upon pre-season forecasts and allocated amongst the 6 Harvest areas, depending either upon a number of permits fished or historical catches of chinook.

#### **Fishermen Memorandum –**

Fishermen in each area to Elect a 3 Member Panel whose job it will be to develop with the Fishermen of that Area a Memorandum of Understanding that reflects that areas' seasons' goals, and then to communicate the intended prosecution of each EO. For Example: Some areas may wish to fish equally. Some areas may wish to prioritize a few sites throughout the duration of the season in order to support processing facilities, while bringing more gear into the water only with very high concentrations of fish. There is luck as always, but in time, if an overall reduction of chinook harvest is the goal than areas may improve by prioritizing sites that rarely intercept the fish or by innovating their methods/means.

#### **New Gear Types -**

Support that innovation by permitting an alternative gear type that may allow additional harvest opportunity, even if at a weaker level, and the use of more EO hours specifically in sockeye and pink management plans.

Option 1 - Dip Net, As described in Regulatory Language- Perhaps 4 per permit.

Option 2 A 10 or 15 Fathom Drift Gillnet

Alternative Gear can be fished at traditional sites (leased sites to be respected) and could perhaps be found to be fished more efficiently with the addition of alternative gear such as a 105 Fathom Seine described in another proposal. Alternative gear would be permitted in new harvest areas designed to increase the productivity of less efficient gear.

#### **New Harvest Area Descriptions -**

Kasilof - The area described in 5AAC 77.540(b)(4)

Kenai - The area(s) described in SAAC 77.540(c)(1)(C) from a boat, in the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock ... **downstream** and to include the area(s) in 5AAC 77.540(c)(1)(D)(i) - **from a boat; fishing is prohibited beyond one mile from the mean high tide mark**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Management plans in the set net industry that are not actionable based upon an OEG of 15,000 large Chinook.

I would like to see the Department feel comfortable granting more EO hours from management plans developed for the set net industry.

This is unlikely if the fishing capacity is seen as "too much" or unmanageable.

**PROPOSED BY:** Nathan Hoff

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