

PROPOSAL 258 (formerly ACR 12) – 5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. Amend the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* to align with changes adopted by the Pacific Salmon Commission to maintain the troll and sport fishery allocations.

5 AAC 47.055 (c)(d)(e)(f)(g)(h)(i) is amended and an additional 10 paragraphs are added to create a total of 17 possible management tiers.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Unlike any other state-managed fishery in Alaska, the SE Alaska all-gear king salmon harvest limit is set by the international Pacific Salmon Commission. The commission’s agreement that was in effect from 2019-2022, set the SE Alaska all-gear harvest limit into one of seven tiers based solely on the catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) in the previous winter’s troll fishery. For the past 25 years, the hook-and-line portion of the SE Alaska harvest has been allocated 20% to sport and 80% to commercial troll. Thus, there were only seven possible sport harvest limits. Hence, the SEAK King Salmon Management Plan has seven possible management scenarios, one for each of these tiers. Beginning in 2023, the Pacific Salmon Commission changed the process that they use to determine the SE all-gear harvest limit. They are now using a combination of three input variables and a 17 tier system, with 17 possible all-gear harvest limits. Hence there are also 17 possible values for the 20% portion that is allocated to the sport fishery. Thus, in order to maintain the 20%:80% ratio, the 7 tiers referenced in 5 AAC 47.055 should be updated to reflect the 17 possible sport harvest limits. In 2022, when the Board of Fisheries last updated the SEAK King Salmon Management Plan, it was not anticipated that the 7 tier system for establishing the SE all-gear harvest limit (and consequently the SE sport limit), would be replaced by a 17 tier system with multiple inputs.

If the SEAK King Salmon Management Plan remains unchanged, it will dictate that the 2024 sport king salmon harvest limit will be one of only 7 possible values, based solely on the winter CPUE. Thus, the sport harvest limit will not be 20% of the hook-and-line total. It may be larger or smaller than 20% depending upon the winter CPUE and which of the 17 tiers the abundance happens to be in. This proposal is not intended to be allocative. Rather it's purpose is to maintain the historic 20%-80% allocation between sport and commercial troll.

PROPOSED BY: Tad Fujioka
