

**PROPOSAL 93**

**5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.**

Exempt the East Foreland Section from ‘paired restriction’ management measures within the *Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan* as follows:

This proposal is asking that the East Forelands (244-42) be exempted as it was in the 2017-2019 regulation book and that the exemption language be put back in regulation.

Prior wording of 5 AAC 21.359(e)(3): in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet commercial fishery, excluding the East Foreland Section, notwithstanding the provisions of 5AAC 21.360(c)(1)(B), 2(B) and (3)(B), based on abundance of sockeye salmon returning to the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers....

and add additional language that fishing time is to be limited to Mondays and Thursdays from 7:00am to 7:00pm.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In 2020 at the Cook Inlet Board of Fish meeting, the East Forelands sub section (244-42) exemption was removed and the Forelands was listed part of the area to be closed to set netting when the river closed to king fishing. Information from the Alaska Dept of Fish and Game, shows that from 1999 to 2022, the East Forelands section has a catch average of just 1.26% of the total kings caught in the ESSN fishery (all sizes and stock origins, with no accounting for “large kings” within this percentage total). If you consider that this 1.26% is the total of ALL sizes of kings, then any catch data of "large kings" within the 1.26% would make this percentage even smaller! This limited king catch should allow the East Forelands exemption to be put back in place.

**PROPOSED BY:** Rick Jewell

(EF-F23-125)

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