

PROPOSAL 157

5 AAC 33.3XX. New Section.

Establish a terminal harvest area and associated management plan for harvesting hatchery produced salmon at Burnett Inlet.

5AAC 33.3XX. New Section

Create a management plan for hatchery returns to Burnett Inlet, as follows:

5AAC 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 (THA) 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.**
- (c) **The Burnett Inlet THA, consists of water of Burnett Inlet north of 56.04.65' N. lat.**
- (d) **A drift gillnet operated in the THA may not exceed 200 fathoms in length**
 - (1) The maximum mesh size is six inches.**

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. The adult chums return to BIH through numerous common property fishery corridors, notably in Districts 6 and 8, and enter Burnett Inlet in mid to late June. These chum are well segregated from natural stocks when they are in the terminal area with the exception of pink salmon in Navy Creek. Although SSRAA typically takes all chum salmon returning to Burnett Inlet for broodstock and cost recovery, there are years when there are chum salmon in excess to broodstock and cost recovery needs. Establishing a THA in regulation for this situation allows for common property fisheries to harvest excess fish.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. The proposal was reviewed and edited by the ADF&G SE Salmon/Herring Fisheries Management Coordinator and Regional Area Management Biologist.

PROPOSED BY: Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA)(HQ-F24-044)
