

RC199

NORTHERN DISTRICT SET NETTERS ASSOCIATION OF COOK INLET

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Est. 1954



7 February 2014

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Anchorage, Alaska

SUBJECT: Proposal 141 – 5 AAC 21.353 Central District Gillnet Fishery Management Plan –
Modify management plan to provide reasonable opportunity for Northern District set
gillnetters

The Central District Gillnet Fishery Management Plan is the plan that the Department uses in-season to get salmon through the Central District into the Northern District to ensure adequate escapement and provide fishing opportunity to Northern Cook Inlet fishers.

Foremost, this plan is especially important at this time to get adequate numbers of sockeye and coho into Northern Cook Inlet for escapement.

Secondarily, this plan provides opportunity for Northern Cook Inlet fishers.

The Northern District set netters are a long-time, historic user of salmon stocks in Northern Cook Inlet, and they are not mentioned in the plan.

This proposal asks recognition in the Central District Gillnet Fishery Management Plan for Northern District set netters by adding the language “and also to provide a reasonable opportunity for Northern District setnetters to harvest salmon of all stocks.”

Without this language there is no consideration of Northern District setnetters in the passage of fish into Northern Cook Inlet.