

**PROPOSAL 130**

**5 AAC 01.725. Waters closed to subsistence fishing.**

Close subsistence fishing for salmon in Chilkat Inlet through July 15, and Chilkat River from June 15 to August 1, as follows:

(3) District 15, Waters of the Chilkat Inlet are closed to fishing prior to July 15th and waters of the Chilkat River are closed to fishing from June 15th to August 1st

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal addresses the need for conservation of the Chilkat Chinook salmon population through a closure of the Chilkat Inlet through July 15th and the closure of the Chilkat River from June 15th to August 1st in the District 15 Southeast Alaska subsistence fishery. With the low returns of Chinook salmon to the Chilkat River over the last 10 years this closure would allow for the maximum number of returning Chinook salmon to reach the spawning grounds in the upper reaches of the river system without having to navigate past fishing gear. Although this closure may seem extreme, Chinook stocks in the Haines area and throughout Southeast Alaska have been suffering low returns and this measure will help a larger proportion of the returning population spawn to ensure the future survival of this stock. This closure would only effect the Chilkat side of the subsistence fishery, thus allowing subsistence fishermen who wanted to fish earlier in the season fishing opportunity in the Chilkoot Inlet and Lutak Inlet areas of the district. Leaving the Chilkat river open from June 1st to June 14th which is currently done will allow for the harvest of early sockeye when Chinook returning to the river system are in limited numbers. Sockeye, Chum and Coho salmon are still returning to Chilkat River in large numbers after August 1st so fishermen wanting opportunity in the river system would still have ample time after the closure period to harvest fish also. I feel this proposal would help in the local conservation effort to protect the Chilkat Chinook stock and the overall conservation effort to protect Chinook salmon stocks in Southeast Alaska while still allowing for subsistence users time to harvest fish throughout the season. This conservation measure is commensurate with other restrictions applied to Southeast Alaska commercial and sport fisheries by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

**PROPOSED BY:** William Prisciandaro

(EF-F17-098)

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**PROPOSAL 131**

**5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications.**

Implement maximum gillnet mesh-size restrictions in the Chilkat Inlet and River subsistence salmon fishery, as follows:

(5) in District 15, in the waters of Chilkat Inlet and Chilkat River, the maximum allowable gillnet mesh size is 5 3/8" prior to August 1st.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal addresses the need for conservation of the Chilkat Chinook salmon population through the use of a maximum gillnet size restriction of 5 3/8" through August 1st in the Chilkat Inlet and Chilkat River areas of the District 15 Southeast Alaska subsistence fishery. Considering low returns of Chinook salmon

to the Chilkat River system over the last 10 years, changing to maximum size of gillnets allowed to be fished in the Haines area subsistence fisheries could help curtail Chinook salmon from being caught in the subsistence fishery both in the salt water and Chilkat River. Prior to August 1 gillnets with a mesh size of 5 3/8" or less would still allow sockeye and pink salmon to be caught while allowing Chinook a better chance of bouncing off gillnets and reaching their spawning grounds. A mesh restriction should also reduce catches of larger, productive female spawners. After August 1st most Chinook salmon have reached their spawning grounds; relaxing the mesh restriction off would allow users who are targeting chum and coho Salmon to use larger mesh sized nets to more effectively catch those species. If this change is not adopted there could be Chinook salmon incidentally harvested at a time when the Chilkat River is seeing record low returns. This conservation measure is commensurate with other restrictions applied to Southeast Alaska commercial and sport fisheries by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

**PROPOSED BY:** Upper Lynn Canal Advisory Committee (EF-F17-068)  
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**PROPOSAL 132**

**5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area and 5 AAC 33.384. Lynn Canal and Chilkat River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan.**

Amend sport king salmon regulations in Districts 11, 12, 14, and 15 based on the Taku River king salmon preseason escapement estimate, as follows:

**Sport Fishery**

If preseason chinook projection is:

- A. In upper 1/3 of escapement range, Taku Inlet north of Cooper Point closed to king fishing April 15 through June 15. Waters of Lynn Canal above latitude of Eldred Rock closed to king fishing. Maximum limit two (2) king salmon per day.
- B. In middle 1/3 of escapement range, Taku Inlet and waters from Limestone Inlet to a line from Pt Louisa to Symonds Point closed to king fishing April 15 through June 15. Waters of district 15 that are open to sport fishing, maximum limit one (1) king salmon per day.
- C. In lower 1 /3 of escapement range, all waters of district 11 and 15 closed to king salmon fishing. Waters of district 12 and 14 open to sport fishing, maximum limit of one (1) king salmon per day.

**Notes:** This proposal would affect only waters of Southeast Alaska inside the surf line from April 15 to June 30. It would apply only when preseason projections of run strength fall within or below established escapement range goals. It would not apply if projections came in above established escapement range goals.

Should in-season indicators of abundance (CPUE in fisheries, Juneau sport catch, tag recoveries, fish wheel data) show projected run strength failing to materialize, the Department will take immediate action to reduce harvest opportunity in all fisheries and move more kings into the escapement.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has excellent data available on king salmon life histories, harvest, spawning, and distribution. Existing management strategy has failed to put adequate annual escapements into the Taku and Chilkat rivers. Both stocks are currently at all-time lows and future projections of returns are at an all-time low. The Chilkat run has been below minimum escapement four of the last five years and the Taku has been below minimum two of the last four years. 2006 was the last year the Taku received an escapement above the escapement range and for the last decade, all harvest has come directly out of the escapements. Years of fishing on escapement is to a large degree why these stocks are at all-time lows.

The goal of this proposal is to put adequate, annual escapements of king salmon into the Taku and Chilkat rivers.

**PROPOSED BY:** Michael R. Bethers (HQ-F17-054)  
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**PROPOSAL 133**

**5 AAC 29.090. Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries; 5 AAC 29.095. District 8 King Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 29.097. District 11 King Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 33.368. District 8 King Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 33.384. Lynn Canal and Chilkat River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan; and 5 AAC 33.XXX. New Section (District 11 King Salmon Management Plan).**

Base duration of commercial salmon troll and drift gillnet gear spring openings on pre-season king salmon abundance projections, as follows:

**Commercial Proposal**

**Troll Fishery**

If pre-season chinook projection is:

- A. In upper 1/3 of escapement range, spring troll areas in districts 9, 12, and 14 will be open concurrently to a maximum of four (4) days per week.
- B. In middle 1/3 of escapement range, spring troll areas in district 9, 12, and 14 will be open concurrently to a maximum of two (2) days per week.
- C. In lower 1/3 of escapement range, spring troll areas in districts 9, 12, and 14 will be closed April 15-June 30.

**Gillnet Fishery**

If pre-season chinook projection is:

- A. In upper 1/3 of escapement range, there will be no targeted king openings. Normal areas open for sockeye on normal starting date.
- B. In middle 1/3 of escapement range, there will be no targeted king openings. Reduced open areas adjacent to river mouths, mesh restrictions in effect, sockeye openings to occur on normal dates.
- C. In lower 1/3 of escapement range, there will be no targeted king openings. Major areas closed to protect king salmon, mesh restrictions in effect, no king retention, sockeye openings may be delayed, night closures through June 30th.

**Notes:**

This proposal would affect only waters of Southeast Alaska inside the surf line from April 15 to June 30. It would apply only when preseason projections of run strength fall within or below established escapement range goals. It would not apply if projections came in above established escapement range goals.

Should in-season indicators of abundance (CPUE in fisheries, Juneau sport catch, tag recoveries, fish wheel data) show projected run strength failing to materialize, the Department will take immediate action to reduce harvest opportunity in all fisheries and move more kings into the escapement.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has excellent data available on king salmon life histories, harvest, spawning, and distribution. Existing management strategy has failed to put adequate annual escapements into the Taku and Chilkat rivers. Both stocks are currently at all-time lows and future projections of returns are at an all-time low. The Chilkat run has been below minimum escapement four of the last five years and the Taku has been below minimum two of the last four years. 2006 was the last year the Taku received an escapement above the escapement range and for the last decade, all harvest has come directly out of the escapements. Years of fishing on escapement is to a large degree why these stocks are at all-time lows.

The goal of this proposal is to put adequate, annual escapements of king salmon into the Taku and Chilkat rivers.

**PROPOSED BY:** Michael R. Bethers

(HQ-F17-053)

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**PROPOSAL 134**

**5 AAC 29.090. Management of the spring salmon troll fisheries.**

Close the spring commercial salmon troll fishery in Districts 9, 12, and 14 when the Juneau area sport fishery is closed to protect king salmon, as follows:

Close the troll fishery in districts 9,12 and 14 from April 15 to June 15 whenever the Juneau sport fishery is closed to protect Taku chinook from April 15 to June 15.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Taku and Chilkat king salmon stocks are at all time lows and predicted escapements for both rivers are way below the minimum escapement goals. Both stocks have exhibited a downward spiral over the last ten years. Although the Territorial Sportsmen concur that poor ocean survival may be the major limiting factor it is imperative that we take every possible conservation measure to assure that every spawning king salmon reaching our coast makes it to the rivers. The Department of Fish and Game has adopted many of the measures this spring that were proposed by our organization two years ago in Sitka. However, those measures are too little and too late. There is a conservation crisis here. The troll fishery is the largest harvester of the spring Taku king salmon run and should participate fully in its conservation. Taku stocks (and Chilkat stocks) are taken in districts 9, 12 and 14.

**PROPOSED BY:** Territorial Sportsmen, Inc./Ron Somerville (EF-F17-076)  
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**PROPOSAL 135**

**5 AAC 01.670. Lawful gear and gear specifications.**

Modify lawful gear for subsistence salmon fishing in Yakutat Bay, as follows:

We propose that subsistence fishing in Yakutat Bay with a gillnet be conducted as follows; The permit holder must be on, or in control of his net, or it must be disabled, ( tied up) so as not to be capable of harvesting fish in his absence during the months of April, May, June, and July. By doing so, the hope is to eliminate any Chinook be removed from the net by marine mammals.

We considered making this a district wide function for all fisheries, but decided it was only needed for what is primarily a fishery targeting Chinook, as this is the species that is jeopardy, and the main time it's a problem is during the months of April and May because there are not yet any other species of salmon around for predators accept for Chinook.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently, the chronically low numbers of Chinook returning to the Situk estuary require us to make every effort to allow for as many Chinook as possible to reach the spawning grounds. During the months of April, May, June, and July, there is a substantial subsistence fishery that takes place in Yakutat Bay. During the months of April and May, the primary target is Chinook salmon. We understand the need for rural citizens to eat, we would just like to trim as much waste as possible. This fishery is slow pace, so nets are left unattended for lengthy periods of time. This allows for seals and sea lions to harvest Chinook from the nets while the fisherman is absent. The solution we recommend is eliminating as much waste as is possible.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(EF-F17-040)

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**PROPOSAL 136**

**5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.**

Extend the area closed to sport fishing downstream and upstream of the Situk River weir during June and July, as follows:

(b)(6) We recommend that the current waters closed to sportfishing 100 yards above and below the weir across Situk River, be extended to 300 yards above and below the weir for the months of June and July to create a bigger safety area for the salmon waiting to pass through. Should the number of Adult Chinook counted through the weir reach minimum escapement goals during the months of June or July, the closed area would revert back to 100 yards above and below.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Situk River has been experiencing chronically low returns of Chinook salmon. 4 of the last 5 years have seen numbers of adults counted thru the weir fall below minimum escapement goals. Our intent is to identify any potential places in which conservation measures may help alleviate this.

It has come to our attention through numerous testimonies that the weir across the Situk River, causes a barrier which the salmon tend to stack up below. This winds up being a place that sport anglers like to frequent for this reason. By nature, everybody wants to fight the biggest fish in the river. Chinook have to be immediately released, but that doesn't help, if they are harmed. Accounts describe Adult Chinook with 4 or 5 lures hanging from it. We would like to create a bigger safety buffer zone.

The Situk is a long river, with many holes to fish in, this will not harm anyone's ability to recreate.

We were informed by Dept. staff that there has been tampering with the existing regulatory markers. It is our recommendation that fines should be increased, to include losing one's sport license for a length of time for violation of this code. There is much at stake here, and the regulatory markers must be respected.

**PROPOSED BY:** Yakutat Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(EF-F17-027)

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**PROPOSAL 137**

**5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.**

Increase the regional resident king salmon possession limit when the Southeast Alaska Area preseason king salmon abundance index is greater than 2.0, as follows:

(c)(2) a resident bag limit of 3 kings salmon and possession limit of 6 [3] king salmon 28 inches or greater in length.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Provide Alaska residents additional opportunity to harvest king salmon during periods of high levels of abundance; when the Southeast abundance index is greater than 2.0.

**PROPOSED BY:** Mike Fox

(EF-F17-030)

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**PROPOSAL 138**

**5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan.**

Allow the retention of other salmon while fishing for king salmon with two rods, as follows:

I would like to see a clearer definition of what to do in the situation described below, included in the fish and game regulations. Also I would like to see retention of Coho and other salmon species, included in the 2 pole king salmon fishing period. As the Coho run is just about over anyway, I cannot see it having much of an impact on the overall catch of Coho for the year. As I am more or less subsistence fishing when I am out sport fishing, and I don't get out as much as I like, if I do catch a late Coho, while fishing for kings with two poles, it would be nice to be able to throw it in the freezer.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to have the board clear up a question I have gotten different answers to depending on which law enforcement officer, or fish and game person, I have asked. If you are fishing with 2 poles for King Salmon, as allowed between October 1st to April 1st, and you catch a rockfish, should you shake it as it's not the target species of the 2 pole opening? Or should you keep it as the regulations require you to keep the first rock fish caught? Also I would like to see the 2 rod fishing period be extended to include all species of salmon caught, as there are some Coho's left in early October and it's a shame to have to shake them because you are fishing 2 poles.

**PROPOSED BY:** Eric Tyson

(EF-F17-044)

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**PROPOSAL 139**

**5 AAC 33.387. District 9: Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area Management Plan.**

Eliminate provisions for a rotational fishery in Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area and allow the department to manage the fishery in consultation with the hatchery operator, as follows:

(d) The management plan ~~in this section distributes~~ **[allows for]** the harvest of hatchery-produced chum salmon among the purse seine, ~~[gillnet]~~, and troll fisheries when there are excess fish not being harvested by the hatchery operator. **[The gear and rotations, if any, shall be determined by the commissioner, in consultation with the hatchery operator by emergency order.]**

~~(e) The department shall manage the Southeast Cove Terminal Harvest Area to distribute the harvest of excess hatchery produced chum salmon as follows:~~

~~(1) the gear group that is furthest from that gear group's allocation of enhanced salmon will begin with the first rotation;~~

~~(2) purse seine openings will be limited to a maximum of two fishing days per week in the terminal harvest area in order to harvest surplus chum salmon;~~  
~~(3) troll openings will be limited to a maximum of five fishing days per week in the terminal harvest area in order to harvest surplus chum salmon.~~

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association began operations at Southeast Cove in 2014 a satellite release site for the Gunnuk Creek Hatchery, which NSRAA purchased in 2017. NSRAA was not the operator when the regulation was established and prefers to develop the management plan for SE Cove with fishermen and ADF&G's Area Management Biologist through the NSRAA Board process. As NSRAA develops experience with the program returns, EO fisheries, and economic harvests, NSRAA expects to develop a management plan for board of fish adoption.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association' (EF-F17-046)  
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**PROPOSAL 140**

**5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Prohibit use of drift gillnet gear for commercial salmon fishing in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area during the 2018–2020 fishing seasons, as follows:

(d)(3) except as specified in [(4) AND (5) of] this subsection, in establishing emergency order openings for the **2018-2020 fishing season, net harvest is limited to seine only.** [ PURSE SEINE AND DRIFT GILLNET FISHERIES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ROTATE OPENINGS BETWEEN THESE GEAR GROUPS AND SHALL PROVIDE FOR A TIME RATIO FOR GILLNETT OPENINGS TO SEINE OPENINGS OF TWO TO ONE:]

[(4)(A) (B) (C)]

[(5)(A)(B)(I)(II)]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The gillnet fleet has abundant fishing opportunity and has been very effective at harvesting the majority of the Anita Bay returns in their traditional common property openings in District 108. The seine fleets only real opportunity to access these fish is in the Terminal Harvest Area (THA). The gillnet harvest value has averaged 155% of their mid-point allocation range over the last 10 years while the seine fleet is below their lower allocation range. This action would give additional fishing opportunity to the seine fleet in the Anita THA to help balance the allocation imbalance between the net fleets.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) (EF-F17-086)  
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**PROPOSAL 141**

**5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan and 5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Modify net rotation schedules for the commercial drift gillnet gear and purse seine gear salmon fisheries at Deep Inlet and Anita Bay terminal harvest areas, as follows:

Proposed language:

Adjust net rotation schedules for drift gillnet and purse seines in Deep Inlet and Anita Bay on a 1 day gillnet to 1 day seine net rotations, starting the first EO of 2018 to the last EO of 2020.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The enhanced allocation data shows the gillnet fleet above their range and the seine fleet slightly below their range according to the 5-year rolling average. A shift in time to 1:1 for the next 3 years would put the seine fleet with in their allocation range. Due to the seine fleets’ gear efficiencies and overall catching power, any modification of more time other than 1:1 rotation at Deep Inlet or Anita Bay is excessive.

This proposal modifies net rotation schedules at both Deep Inlet and Anita Bay to address enhanced salmon allocation imbalance.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) (HQ-F17-081)

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**PROPOSAL 142**

**5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Modify drift gillnet and purse seine fishing rotations in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

(b)(1)(C) for the ~~2015—2017~~ **[2018 – 2020, or through 2022 if there is a 5 year BOF cycle]**seasons, from the third Sunday in June through statistical week 30, the time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is one to one, **[and from statistical week 31 through the end of the season the time ratio for gillnet to seine openings is one to two, except that during the 2016 and 2017 seasons when the preliminary enhanced salmon harvest value data from the previous season indicates the seine gear group is below 46.0% based on the five-year rolling average; however, if the five-year rolling average for seine is at or above 46.0% the fishing ratio is one to one for gillnet to seine, and if the five-year rolling average is at or above 49.0%, the gillnet to seine ratio is two to one;]** ~~within that group's enhanced salmon allocation percentage range, based on the five-year rolling average as described in 5 AAC 33.364, the time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is two to one for the entire season;~~

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The NSRAA board of directors passed a motion by majority vote at its Annual Meeting in March 2017 to adjust the gillnet to seine rotation at Deep Inlet for the purpose of adjusting the allocation imbalance as per **5 AAC 33.364 #94-02-FB**. The purse seine group is below their allocation range (5 year rolling average) and the gillnet group is above its range. This change is expected to significantly effect the annual value of

seine harvest in a positive direction and commensurately negatively effect the value of the gillnet harvest.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association' (EF-F17-049)

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**PROPOSAL 143**

**5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Change the time ratio for drift gillnet gear to purse seine gear openings in Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

(b)(1)(B) [EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED IN (C) OF THIS PARAGRAPH,] The time ratio for gillnet openings to seine openings is **one to two** [TWO TO ONE] ;

[(C) FOR THE 2015 - 2017 SEASONS, FROM THE THIRD SUNDAY IN JUNE THROUGH STATISTICAL WEEK 30, THE TIME RATIO FOR GILLNET OPENINGS TO SEINE OPENINGS IS ONE TO ONE, EXCEPT THAT DURING THE 2016 AND 2017 SEASONS IF THE POSTSEASON PRELIMINARY ENHANCED SALMON HARVEST VALUE DATA FROM THE PREVIOUS SEASON INDICATES THE SEINE GEAR GROUP IS WITHIN THAT GROUP'S ENHANCED SALMON ALLOCATION PERCENTAGE RANGE, BASED ON THE FIVE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 33.364, THE TIME RATIO FOR GILLNET OPENINGS TO SEINE OPENINGS IS TWO TO ONE FOR THE ENTIRE SEASON;]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The gillnet harvest value has averaged 155% of their mid-point allocation range over the last 10 years while the seine fleet is below their lower allocation range. This action would give additional fishing opportunity to the seine fleet at Deep Inlet to help balance the allocation imbalance between the net fleets.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) (EF-F17-084)

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**PROPOSAL 144**

**5 AAC 33.376. District 13: Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Allow increased commercial salmon fishing opportunity with troll gear in the Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

**(b) (2) & (3).**

\*\*In the proposed regulation that follows, regular text is existing regulation, **bolded** is proposed and [bracketed] may be deleted.

(2) salmon may be taken by troll gear when the waters described in this subsection are closed to commercial net gear.

**(A) Beginning with the first day of the August coho closure described in 5 AAC 29.110(b)(2), or August 20 if there is no closure, salmon may also be taken by troll gear when the waters described in this subsection are open to commercial net gear**

(3) the commissioner [shall] **may** close the seasons in the waters described in this subsection to trolling during hatchery cost recovery periods.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Title: *Allow Trolling in Deep Inlet THA during certain Net and Cost Recovery Fisheries*

Trollers have been below their allocation of enhanced salmon established by BOF Finding 94-148-FB and adopted into regulation 5 AAC 33.364 *Southeast Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan*. When such an imbalance persists, (and the troll share has been consistently below the allocation range for over 20 years using the measure directed by the Allocation Plan) the Allocation Plan provides direction for the BoF to adjust terminal area fisheries to achieve that balance. The 13th point of BOF Finding 94-148-FB similarly states that the first tool to be used to make the distribution of the harvest meet the allocation goals is to make adjustments to Special Harvest Area management.

NSRAA has recently re-established a coho return to Deep Inlet. These fish primarily return in August- along with the later portion of the chum run. Both of these runs are well suited to a troll fishery. This proposal would change the Deep Inlet management plan to be more similar to management of SSRAA terminal areas which are open to trolling during all net openings.

The region-wide troll closure is a period of extremely limited opportunity for trollers. While net gear might preempt all available water during a highly-subscribed net opening, sometimes there would be opportunity to troll behind the gillnet fleet or when the seine fleet is divided between hatchery and wild fish opportunities. Allowing trollers to fish in Deep Inlet during cost recovery fisheries (which typically do not occupy more than a small fraction of the THA due to the small number of cost recovery boats) could be a potentially significant troll opportunity. Later in the year as the chum run tapers off, the net effort frequently decreases to the point that there is regularly room for simultaneous troll access.

**PROPOSED BY:** Chum Trollers Association (EF-F17-109)  
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**PROPOSAL 145**

**5 AAC 33.372. District 1: Nakat Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Allow commercial salmon fishing with purse seine gear in the Nakat Inlet Terminal Harvest Area, as follows:

(a) This management plan provides for the terminal area common property harvest of hatchery-produced coho and chum salmon in the Nakat Inlet Terminal Harvest Area and distributes the harvest 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 waters of Nakat Inlet north of Surprise Point at 54\_ 49.10' N. lat. and west of 130\_ 42.75' W. long. from June 1 through November 10 to distribute the harvest of hatchery-produced coho and chum salmon. Fishing will be open continuously to troll gear and drift gillnet gear from June 1 through November 10, **unless the gillnet fleet is above their allocation range for the most recent five year rolling average; at which time openings for purse seine will occur one day a week for 12 consecutive hours starting at 6am**, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Seine access to the Nakat Terminal Harvest Area (THA) was removed from regulatory language when the seine fleet was above their target allocation range. Flexibility in managing the THA has proven over time to be the only immediately effective way to attempt to balance allocation imbalances, especially within the net fleets. At the time this agreement was reached it was believed that “additional production” could address these issues; that assumption has proven to be inaccurate. The gillnet harvest value has averaged 155% of their mid-point allocation range over the last 10 years while the seine fleet is below their lower allocation range. This action would give additional fishing opportunity to the seine fleet in the Nakat THA only when the gillnet fleet is above their allocation range.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) (EF-F17-090)  
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**PROPOSAL 146**

**5 AAC 33.364. Southeastern Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan.**

Do not include enhanced salmon produced by private nonprofit hatcheries in *Southeastern Alaska Area Enhanced Salmon Allocation Management Plan* gear-specific value allocations, as follows:

Removing all private non profits (PNPs) from the southeast Alaska area enhanced salmon allocation management plan would then provide for a simple and just system of producing, taxing and spending to achieve allocation percentages set forth in the allocation plan the current system allows for abuse and manipulation by one gear group or another based on incomplete data while taxes are still collected on all gear groups. Prince William Sound also removed PNPs from their allocation plan in accordance with the removal of wild fish, as the contribution from PNPs is difficult to fully ascertain and provide equally for all users. PNPs operate in gear specific areas geographically and do not have equal gear group representation, nor do they receive enhancement taxes to fund future projects. Removing PNP production from the overall plan would satisfy the intent of the allocation percentages set forth in the allocation plan without undue manipulation by PNPs production.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently the se Alaska allocation area enhanced salmon management plan requires collection of salmon enhancement taxes from all parts of se Alaska, which only go to the two regional aquaculture associations, NSRAA and SSRRA. There are multiple private non profit (PNPs) hatcheries that also produce enhanced fish but do not receive salmon enhancement taxes. Production from these PNPs however is taxed in each area in which the fish are caught. Money collected is supposed to be spent on gear

specific projects in order to meet the allocation percentages set forth in the se salmon allocation plan. The regional associations are the only recipients of enhancement taxes. Each regional association also is set up to provide for gear specific representation. Private non profits (PNPs) are not required to have gear specific representation and may not be located in areas to benefit all gear groups. Production from the PNPs cannot be evenly distributed to all gear groups without severe and major upheaval in all fishing districts as fishing districts are currently set aside for various gear groups with limited crossover. Each regional association has fishing areas available to all three gear groups. However, the production from the PNPs is utilized in determining allocation of enhanced fish amongst all gear groups, even though the PNPs do not receive the salmon enhancement tax and do not have a fair just process for divvying up enhanced salmon production as the regional associations are set up to provide.

**PROPOSED BY:** Donald Churchill j.r. (EF-F17-106)

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**PROPOSAL 147**

**5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.**

Amend Mist Cove salmon closure to allow for taking of salmon with fly fishing gear and prohibit snagging, as follows:

In Mist Cove, south of a line from ADF&G regulatory markers located at 56° 3 1.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long to 56° 31.07 N. lat 134° 40.12 W. long., to the barrier net., sport fishing for salmon is open to fly fishing only. Snagging of salmon is prohibited 300 yards north of a line from ADF&G regulatory markers located at 56° 3 1.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long to 56° 31.07 N. lat 134° 40.12 W. long.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I respectfully request The Board of Fisheries address this issue.

In Mist Cove, south of a line from ADF&G regulatory markers located at 56° 3 1.07' N. lat., 134° 40.20' W. long to 56° 31.07 N. lat 134° 40.12 W. long., sport fishing for salmon is closed;

On the last meeting the Board of Fisheries closed this area to prevent damage to net pens and provide safety for the crew working the site.

Our Family operates a small fishing lodge in Port Alexander and I have flown guests to Mist Cove for the last eighteen years. I primarily guided my clients for fly fishing in that closed area and have never damaged any net pens or endangered any crew.

Mist cove is very popular and more people are going there to fish. There are charter boats that go there to snag salmon with weighted treble hooks with up to four fishers on a boat. This practice is dangerous to the crew, other fishers and can damage the net pens.

I feel that the regulation needs to change to allow fly fishing only in the closed area and extend the line 300 yards eastward to close any guided snagging of salmon.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kevin Mulligan

(EF-F17-089)

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**PROPOSAL 148**

**5 AAC 33.369. District 1: Herring Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Expand the Herring Bay Sportfish Terminal Harvest Area to provide additional sport fishing opportunity for hatchery-produced king salmon, as follows:

Open an additional sub-area to the Ketchikan Sport Terminal Hatchery Area (STHA) with a two fish daily bag limit, that coincides with the opening and closing of the Ketchikan STHA. This daily bag limit would not count against any annual limits.

This sub-area would abut the southern edge of the STHA in area 101-27 In Nichols Passage and extend further south to Hid Reef on the eastern corner, to the junction of 101-25 and 101-29 In Clarence Strait, and continue northward within area 101-29 to a line extending due west (True) from South Valenar Point to the western boundary of 101-29. It should be noted that this sub-area is extremely small in comparison to the Spring Troll Access Area for commercial harvesters. (See attached diagram of proposed sub-area)\*

This increased access would help alleviate the inequities between Inside and Outside sport fisheries in the early days of each season, and increase marketability of Inside sport fisheries, thereby stretching the season and increasing benefits to the local economy. It would benefit sport fishers In years of low Treaty King Salmon abundance, and would also reduce gear conflicts In the Neats Bay Chum Salmon troll fishery and seine and gillnet King Salmon fisheries Inside the Neats Bay THA by giving sport fishers an alternative access to hatchery King Salmon.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Increase access to hatchery raised King Salmon in the Ketchikan area. Current regulations ensure that sport fishermen continue to lose the opportunity to catch hatchery King Salmon by not allowing increased bag limits in areas of increased hatchery abundance.

**PROPOSED BY:** Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie

(HQ-F17-085)

*\*Proposal submission instructions indicate any additional information provided with the form, such as tables, Internet web links, or charts, will not be included in the proposal book. The referenced graph will be included in the public comment material for the appropriate meeting.*

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**PROPOSAL 149**

**5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.**

Extend the closing date for salmon harvest by the hatchery permit holder in Deep Inlet Special Harvest Area, as follows:

(a) The following special harvest areas are established for the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association:

.....

(7) Deep Inlet for king, chum, and coho salmon: the waters of Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point on the westernmost end of Cape Burunoff at 56\_59.04' N. lat., 135\_23.23' W. long., to a point west of Cape Burunoff at 56\_59.11' N. lat., 135\_23.59' W. long., to a point one-half mile west of the westernmost tip of Long Island at 57\_00.17' N. lat., 135\_22.69' W. long., to the westernmost tip of Long Island, to the easternmost tip of Long Island, to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island, to the westernmost tip of Error Island, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island, to the southernmost tip of Berry Island, to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group, to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57\_00.30' N. lat., 135\_17.67' W. long., to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57\_00.08' N. lat., 135\_16.78' W. long., and then to a point on the Baranof Island shore at 56\_59.93' N. lat., 135\_16.53' W. long. will be open for harvest by the hatchery permit holder from 12:01 a.m. June 15 until 11:59 p.m. **October 31** [September 15], except Sandy Cove is closed south of 56\_59.05' N. lat.;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association’s Bear Cove and Deep Inlet Special Harvest Areas (SHA) closing dates do not align. The Bear Cove closure is October 31 due to late returning coho. However, at Deep Inlet where the majority of the coho smolt are released and return, the regulation closes the SHA in mid-September. NSRAA needs the ability to collect broodstock and/or harvest in Deep Inlet through the end of October. It now requires an EO to do so.

NSRAA proposes a simple date change to **[October 31]** in the (7) Deep Inlet section. No other changes needed.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association’ (EF-F17-045)

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**PROPOSAL 150**

**5 AAC 40.042. Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Special Harvest Areas.**

Establish a special harvest area in Crawfish Inlet, as follows:

(a) The following special harvest areas are established for the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association:

...

**[(10) Crawfish Inlet for Chinook and chum salmon the hatchery special harvest area (SHA) is designated as all waters within Crawfish Inlet east of 135°11.05’ W. longitude for all gear as in (c)(10); troll only Crawfish SHA to include south of 56° 47.14’ and east of a boundary defined by points: 56° 44.16 lat, 135° 15.80’ long to 56° 43.30’ lat, 135° 17.81’ long, to 56° 41.93’ lat, 135° 17.54’ long, to 56° 47.14’ lat, 135° 13.80’ long Aspid Cape.]**

....

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 33.330, legal gear for the hatchery permit holder in a special harvest area are as follows:

...

**[(10) Crawfish Inlet: purse seine, drift gillnet, hand purse seine, beach seine, dip net, and troll gear];**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) initiated a chum and chinook salmon enhancement program at Crawfish Inlet in 2015 when the current Special Harvest Area east of 135°11.05' W. longitude was established. Chum salmon begin returning to Crawfish Inlet in 2017 and chinook in 2018; in order to provide additional benefit to the troll fleet, NSRAA in cooperation with ADF&G Troll Management would like to extend the SHA boundary for commercial troll fishing primarily during June and July for Chinook and late July to early September for chum salmon.

**PROPOSED BY:** Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association' (EF-F17-048)  
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**PROPOSAL 151**

**5 AAC 33.XXX. New Section.**

Establish a terminal harvest area and management plan for Carroll Inlet, as follows:

**5 AAC 33.371. District 1: CARROLL INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

- a) This management plan distributes the harvest of hatchery produced king salmon in the Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area 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 Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area from June 11 through July 10 for troll gear and June 15 to July 10 for purse seine and drift gillnet gear to provide for the harvest of hatchery - produced king salmon, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area consists of the waters of Carroll Inlet north of Nigelius Point at 55°33.50' N. Latitude.
- c) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in length.
- d) May 1 to July 10, the Carroll Inlet THA will be expanded to include all waters of Carroll Inlet north of the latitude of California Head. The expanded area will open only for the harvest of king salmon by troll gear.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** From 1986 through 1995, SSRAA released chinook salmon at Carroll Inlet. At that time, the Alaska Administrative Code



section describing the *Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* was found at 5 AAC 33.371 as noted above. Regulation 5 AAC 33.371 was repealed on 5/31/2009.

SSRAA's programs are continually changing and evolving. In the spring of 2016, 400,000 chinook salmon were released by SSRAA at Carroll Inlet, following four weeks of saltwater net pen rearing on-site. This site was permitted by the Department through the RPT process. Releases are authorized by FTP(s). Subsequent yearly releases of chinook at this site are planned.

The issue that SSRAA would like the Board to address is the reestablishment of administrative regulations and a Terminal Harvest Area (THA) for Carroll Inlet. The submission of this proposal, along with the solution contained within it, has been thoroughly discussed and approved by the 21-member SSRAA Board of Directors. Alternatives to this plan were considered in this process, and changes were made to reflect consensus. The SSRAA Board has representation from all three salmon gear groups, sport fisheries, subsistence users, native corporations, chambers of commerce, municipalities, processors and the public at-large.

If nothing is changed, i.e. there is no *Carroll Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan* going forward: 1.) The Department would have to manage this area on a EO basis that would cause unnecessary work and frustration for them and others; 2.) Commercial fishers would not know what to expect in terms of fishing time and area each season, leading to lower catches and higher expenses; 3.) The regulations would suffer from internal inconsistencies.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (HQ-F17-073)  
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**PROPOSAL 152**

**5 AAC 33.383. District 7: Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.**

Update area description and coordinates of the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area boundaries, as follows:

5 AAC 33.383(a) is amended to read:

(a) The Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area consists of the waters of Anita Bay south and west of a line from the tip of Anita Point **at 56° 13.69' N. lat., 132° 22.50' W. long.** to **a point on the northern shore at 56° 14.26' N. lat., 132° 23.93' W. long.** [132° 23.92' W. long.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The area description in regulation is inconsistent with current commercial salmon markers. The proposed changes will provide a better and more precise description of the Anita Bay THA boundaries.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-102)  
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**PROPOSAL 153**

**5 AAC 33.360. District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan.**

Repeal the *District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan*, as follows:

[ON AND AFTER THE THIRD SUNDAY IN JULY IN DISTRICT 1, WHEN A PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS HARVESTING PINK SALMON STOCKS SUBJECT TO CONCURRENT SALMON FISHING BY DRIFT GILLNETS IN SECTION 1-B, THE FOLLOWING TIME FORMULA APPLIES:

(1) WHEN THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS OPEN FOR ANY PORTION OF ONE DAY DURING A FISHING WEEK, THE DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY MUST BE OPEN FOR 48 HOURS DURING THE SAME FISHING WEEK;

(2) WHEN THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS OPEN FOR ANY PORTION OF TWO DAYS DURING A FISHING WEEK, THE DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY MUST BE OPEN FOR 96 HOURS DURING THE SAME FISHING WEEK;

(3) WHEN THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY IS OPEN FOR ANY PORTION OF THREE OR MORE DAYS DURING A FISHING WEEK, THE DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY MUST BE OPEN FOR 120 HOURS DURING THE SAME FISHING WEEK.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The gillnet fleet is not managed for pink salmon abundance, so it doesn't make sense to link the seine opportunity to gillnet access. When these regulations were adopted, gillnet opportunities in 1-B were significantly less than they are today. The success of the Nakat enhanced production in this area has generated opportunity far beyond wild pink salmon abundance opportunities. We view this as housekeeping.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS) (EF-F17-093)  
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**PROPOSAL 154**

**5 AAC 33.XXX. New Section.**

Establish a management plan for pink salmon in Lower Clarence Strait, as follows:

Reinstate the *Lower Clarence Strait Pink Salmon Management plan* with modifications.

Proposed Language:

(1) During the month of August when seine is open in District 2 the top portion is gillnet exclusive from a line south of the latitude of Adams Point and north of a line at the latitude of Ingraham Point.

(a) For every 15 hours seine opening in District 2 gillnet will receive 24 hours. For every 39 hours seine opening in District 2 gillnet will receive 48 hours.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The gillnet fleet in Southeast Alaska have a rough management goal to receive 5 percent of the pink salmon yearly harvest. This average has not been reached in recent years with a 20 year average of 3.5 percent harvest of pink salmon by gillnet. If nothing changes, the gillnet fleet will lose opportunity to harvest wild pink salmon. This proposal is brought to the Board because there is historical participation in District 2 by gillnet to relieve pink salmon harvest imbalance. We feel that harvesting in this district will not negatively impact the biological health of the resource.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG)

(HQ-F17-078)

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**PROPOSAL 155**

**5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.**

Eliminate the wild sockeye salmon harvest limit for the District 12 commercial salmon purse seine fishery, as follows:

(a)

...

[(2)THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CLOSE THE SEINE FISHERY IN DISTRICT 12 NORTH OF POINT MARSDEN DURING JULY AFTER 15,000 WILD SOCKEYE SALMON ARE TAKEN, AS DESCRIBED IN THIS PARAGRAPH; DURING THE OPENINGS, THE DEPARTMENT WILL USE AERIAL FLYOVERS, ON-THE-GROUND SAMPLING INTERVIEWS, AND FISH TICKETS TO ESTIMATE THE SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST NORTH OF POINT MARSDEN IN DISTRICT 12 AND IN THE AMALGA HARBOR SPECIAL HARVEST AREA IN DISTRICT 11; HATCHERY-PRODUCED SOCKEYE SALMON WILL NOT COUNT AGAINST THE 15,000 SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST LIMIT; THE WILD SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST THAT WILL COUNT AGAINST THE 15,000 SOCKEYE SALMON HARVEST LIMIT UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ALL WILD SOCKEYE SALMON HARVESTED BY SEINE VESSELS THAT THE DEPARTMENT IDENTIFIES AS FISHING NORTH OF POINT MARSDEN IN DISTRICT 12 DURING ANY JULY FISHING PERIOD WHEN OTHER AREAS ARE OPEN CONCURRENTLY; AND

(B) THROUGH THE 2017 SEASON, UP TO 2,000 WILD SOCKEYE SALMON HARVESTED IN COMMON PROPERTY FISHERIES IN THE AMALGA HARBOR SPECIAL HARVEST AREA IN DISTRICT 11 WHEN THE ENTIRE COMMON PROPERTY HARVEST AREA IS OPEN.]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Foregone opportunity by the purse seine fleet on north and south bound pink salmon stocks that are excess to escapement needs.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Alaska Seiners Association (SEAS)

(EF-F17-081)

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**PROPOSAL 156**

**5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.**

Change time period the District 12 commercial salmon purse seine fishery wild sockeye salmon harvest cap is in effect to reflect current sockeye salmon run timing, as follows:

Modify the Hawk Inlet commercial wild sockeye cap of 15,000.

Proposed language:

(1) Between Stat week 28 and Stat week 33, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

- (a) The department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden prior to Stat week 33, after 15,000 wild sockeye are taken; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye harvest limit; during the openings the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling and interviews to estimate the sockeye salmon harvest north of Point Marsden.
- (b) All incidental wild sockeye salmon harvested in District 11-A Amalga SHA common property seine fishery will be counted against the cap of 15,000 sockeye salmon.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The original Hawk Inlet shoreline sockeye cap was instituted in 1989, almost 30 years ago; the goal was to conserve northern migrating wild sockeye salmon. While the causes of climate change continue to be debated, the science of climate change and its effects are undeniable. The data shows later, more condensed sockeye run timing migrating through northern southeast Alaska. Therefore, the dates of the Hawk Inlet shoreline sockeye cap should be shifted to continue to conserve the northern southeast Alaska sockeye stocks of: Chilkoot, Chilkat, Berners Bay, Taku, Speel, and Crescent. Failure to do so ignores climate change and the shift in wild sockeye salmon run timings that have occurred in northern southeast Alaska since 1989.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) (HQ-F17-076)

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**PROPOSAL 157**

**5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine salmon fishery management plans.**

Include wild sockeye salmon harvested in the Amalga Harbor Special Harvest Area in the District 12 commercial salmon purse seine fishery wild sockeye harvest limit, as follows:

(a) During July, the department may allow the operation of purse seines in District 12 north of Point Marsden to harvest pink salmon migrating northward in Chatham Strait only as follows:

- (1) the department may open only those portions of the area in which a harvestable abundance of pink salmon is observed; open areas and times must consider conservation concerns for all species in the area;
- (2) the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken; hatchery produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden **including wild sockeye salmon harvested by the seine fleet in a common property opening of the Amalga SHA for chum salmon** during any July fishing period when other areas are open concurrently will be counted against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit under this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling, and interviews to estimate the sockeye harvest north of Point Marsden.

(b) Salmon may be taken during emergency order openings for chum salmon in Excursion Inlet only in waters of Section 14-C north of the latitude of the northern tip of the Porpoise Islands; the

department may open the area by emergency order only after consideration of concerns for chum and coho salmon conservation.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** A common property seine fishery in Amalga Harbor SHA occurred the first time in 2012. After five years of seine opportunities in the Amalga Harbor SHA it is felt that the additional harvest of sockeye occurring in the SHA by the seine fishery is affecting the migration of sockeye stocks to upper Lynn Canal and Taku. Sockeye salmon stocks in the area during July are Chilkoot, Chilkat, Berners Bay, Taku, Speel, and Crescent. The District 15 and District 11 gillnet fisheries are ending up on a 6” net restriction for sockeye conservation every year.

The purpose of this proposal would be to close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden once the sockeye cap is reached but that all wild sockeye caught north of Point Marsden including sockeye caught in District 11A is counted toward the sockeye cap.

**PROPOSED BY:** United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters (USAG) (HQ-F17-076)  
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**PROPOSAL 158**

**5 AAC 33.366. Northern Southeast seine fishery management plans.**

Include wild sockeye salmon harvested in the Amalga Harbor Special Harvest Area in the wild sockeye salmon harvest limit for the commercial salmon purse seine fishery in District 12, as follows:

(2) the department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden during July after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are taken; hatchery produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit; all wild sockeye salmon harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as fishing north of Point Marsden **including all wild sockeye salmon harvested by the seine fleet in a common property opening of the Amalga SHA for chum salmon** during any July fishing period when other areas are open concurrently will be counted against the 15,000 sockeye salmon harvest limit under this paragraph; during the openings, the department will use aerial flyovers, on-the-ground sampling, and interviews to estimate the sockeye harvest north of Point Marsden.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** A purse seine fishery has been conducted in the Amalga Harbor special harvest area (SHA) since 2012 to harvest hatchery chum that exceed Douglas Island Pink and Chum’s (DIPAC’s) needs for cost recovery and broodstock. Although this fishery is conducted in a SHA there is still an incidental catch of wildstock fish including sockeye caught during the seine openings. Sampling from DIPAC has shown that the sockeye caught are composed of both wild stock and enhanced origins. To account for continued harvest of these mixed stock sockeye salmon by the seine fishery in the Amalga Harbor SHA all wild stock sockeye components of the catch in the Amalga SHA should count against the 15,000 wild sockeye cap.

**PROPOSED BY:** Ryan Cook (EF-F17-103)  
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**PROPOSAL 159**

**5 AAC 33.XXX. New Section.**

Prohibit the use of all aircraft used to locate salmon or direct commercial fishing operations during open commercial salmon fishing periods in the Southeastern Alaska Area, as follows:

Use of [UNMANNED] aircraft unlawful.

In the Southeastern Alaska Area, during an open commercial salmon fishing period, a person may not use an [UNMANNED] aircraft to locate salmon for the commercial taking of salmon or to direct commercial fishing operations.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Ban the use of all aircraft as “spotter planes” during the commercial salmon fishing period.

Currently aircraft is being used to evade law enforcement and spot fish in closed areas, such as creeks and estuaries. The aircraft then communicates the location of salmon in closed areas to vessels. The vessels then dispatch personal watercraft (jetskis) to herd the fish from closed areas into open areas, where they are illegally harvested. This would make the regulation for Southeast align more closely with other salmon fisheries, such as Prince William Sound Area.

**PROPOSED BY:** John M. Johanson (EF-F17-061)  
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**PROPOSAL 160**

**5 AAC 33.350. Closed waters.**

Allow commercial fishing for salmon in waters near selected streams in Boat Harbor, Anita Bay, Deep Inlet, and Nakat Inlet Terminal Harvest Areas up to a straight line between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks, as follows:

**add new section (q) the AWC streams within the following terminal harvest areas (THA) listed below will remain open to commercial salmon fishing up to a straight line between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks, or as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers; the provisions of 5 AAC 39.290 do not apply.**

**Boat Harbor - AWC stream #115-10-10500**

**Deep Inlet – AWC streams #113-41-10390; #113-41-10380; #113-41-10370; #113-41-10360**

**Anita Bay – AWC Streams #107-30-10800 (Brad Creek); #107-30-10810; #107-30-10836; #107-30-10840; #107-30-10900; #107-30-10780; #107-30-10760**

**Nakat – AWC Streams #101-11-10220 (Eagle Creek); #101-11-10230 (Folly Creek); #101-11-10250; #101-11-10270 (Muskeg Creek) #101-11-10290; #101-11-10330; #101-11-10370 (Nakat Creek); #101-11-10390 (Sockeye Creek); #101-11-10410**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In Southeast Alaska, in the terminal harvest areas (THA) for the drift gillnet fleet there are streams listed in the Anadromous Waters Catalog (AWC) for the presence of salmon (not spawning or rearing) that we would like clarified that these streams are exempt from 5 AAC 39.290, 500 yard requirement. Instead as in

Kodiak as per 5 AAC 18.350 (8) Closed Waters, these streams listed below would remain open to commercial salmon fishing by drift gillnet gear up to a straight line between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks of the streams and creeks. This will help clarify that within the terminal harvest areas some of which are extremely small that Enforcement can not give a ticket for being close to a stream mouth, as these streams are not important for the spawning or rearing of any salmon species and the conduct of gillnet fisheries in these areas has not harmed any wild stocks within the THA.

When 5 AAC 39.290 was changed several cycles ago, it has become very difficult to determine the closed areas that the 500 yards pertains to, particularly section (3) which states “over the beds or channels of fresh water of streams or rivers of this state”.

**PROPOSED BY:** Southeast Alaska Fishermen’s Alliance & United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters  
(HQ-F17-069)

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**PROPOSAL 161**

**5 AAC 33.350. Closed Waters.**

Update commercial salmon fishery closed waters coordinates in Whitewater Bay, as follows:

5 AAC 33.350(m)(13) is amended to read:

(13) Whitewater Bay: waters within a line from Point Caution to 57°[50°] 15.62’ N. lat., 134° 36.79’ [.42] W long.;

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The closed waters description for Whitewater Bay in regulation is in error.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-118)

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