

PROPOSAL 123

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

Remove the sunset date so regulation remains in effect and change effective end date of the plan from July 22 to July 15, as follows:

5 AAC 33.366

(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) [THROUGH THE 2020 SEASON] The department shall close the seine fishery in District 12 north of Point Marsden after 15,000 wild sockeye salmon are harvested by seine vessels that the department identifies as taken north of Point Marsden when other areas are open concurrently through July 15 [22]; hatchery-produced sockeye salmon will not count against the 15,000 wild sockeye salmon harvest limit; 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.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The provisions in section (2) sunsets and needs to be addressed. We would like to have access to north migrating pink salmon during years when abundance allows.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Seiners Association

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