

PROPOSAL 122

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

Remove sunset date so regulation remains in effect, as follows:

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

- (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 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? We would like to make 5 AAC 33.366 (a)(2) permanent. That regulation is currently set to expire after the 2020 season. That provision in this regulation, particularly the sockeye salmon accounting date of July 22, was the result of compromise between the commercial net gear groups during the 2018 Southeast Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Native Inter-Tribal Association of Seiners (HQ-F20-007)
