

PROPOSAL 44

5 AAC 24.370. Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.

Amend allocation corrective action criteria for set gillnet gear under the *Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan*, as follows:

5 AAC 24.730 Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Plan under (f):

If the set gillnet gear group catches 5 percent or more of the previous five-year average ex-vessel value of the total common property fishery for enhanced salmon as calculated by the department under (c) of this section, the year following this calculation beginning July 10, the commissioner shall, by emergency order, open set gillnet fishing periods totaling no more than **the first 36 hours per week** [36 HOURS PER WEEK].

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This plan should be fair and just to all user groups in Area E fisheries, but as it is currently, the regulation is ineffective for reducing the allocation percentage of the set gillnet fleet.

From 2005 to 2019, the set gillnet fleet has been over their 4% allocation for twelve of the fifteen years and over the 5% trigger for eight of those years. The regulation as it is now is being misinterpreted by ADF&G and allowing maximum opportunity for the set gillnet fleet by giving them the most beneficial 36 hours a week, fully optimizing “cleanups”, as we call them. The purpose of this regulation was to limit harvest on the set gillnet fleet and maintain parity between user groups of Area E. This is not happening with the current regulation.

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