

PROPOSAL 107

5 AAC 15.357. Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan.

Modify the *Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan* to allow more commercial fishing time by opening commercial salmon fishing periods regardless of sockeye salmon escapement, as follows:

(d) From June 1 through July 5, in the Western District, excluding the Inner Castle Cape Subsection, and in the Perryville District, the department, **as a mixed-stock fishery directed on early-run sockeye returning to Black Lake; shall open, by emergency order, at least two commercial test fishing periods of 33 hours in length, and may open for no more than two weekly 48 hour fishing periods.** [open the commercial salmon fishery concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District]; during this time period the Perryville District may open for no more than [three] **two weekly** 48 hour fishing periods, [with a minimum closure of 48 hours between each period]; beginning July 6, the department may open the commercial salmon fishery in the Western District, excluding the Inner Castle Cape Subsection, and in the Perryville District, except that,

(1) from approximately late June to mid-July (transition period),

(A) the department shall evaluate the strength of the sockeye salmon late run; and

(B) in order to allow the department to assess the Chignik Lake run strength, the department may keep closed or severely restrict commercial salmon fishing in the Western District, except the Inner Castle Cape Subsection, and in the Perryville District;

(2) from the end of the transition period, described in (b)(2) of this section, until July 31, fishing periods shall be based on the department's evaluation of local pink and chum salmon runs, and its evaluation of the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run; from July 22 through July 31,

(A) repealed 3/29/2008;

(B) the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing in the following terminal harvest areas:

(i) those portions of the Western and Perryville Districts north of a line from Cape Ikki at 56° 00.32' N. lat., 158° 32.02' W. long., to Coal Cape at 55° 53.42' N. lat., 159° 00.45' W. long., to Cape Alexander at 55° 47.22' N. lat., 159° 24.57' W. long.;

(ii) waters in the Ivanof Bay Section of the Perryville District that are north of the latitude from Alexander Point at 55° 47.37' W. long., to Kupreanof Peninsula; and

(iii) those portions of the Chignik Bay and Central Districts known locally as Jack's Box, which consists of those waters east of 158° 15.36' W. long., south of 56° 20' N. lat., and west of 158° 10' W. long.;

(3) after July 31, the fishing periods shall be managed based on the department's evaluation of local pink, chum, and coho salmon runs or the strength of the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run

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What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The WASSIP data shows a mixed stock harvest of sockeye in the CMA Western and Perryville districts. This proposal would give CMA fishermen economic opportunities to fish on a mixed stock, as well as give the department run strength data. There should be limited mixed stock openers in the Western and Perryville districts.

PROPOSED BY: Area M Seiners Association

(EF-F22-055)
