

PROPOSAL 112

5 AAC 15.357 - Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan

Amend the *Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan* to include a harvest cap in the Eastern District to reduce commercial salmon fishing time, as follows:

Section 5 AAC 15.357 - Chignik Area Salmon Management Plan

(c) In the Eastern District,

(1) during June, the commercial salmon fishery shall open concurrently with the Chignik Bay and Central Districts, and the Inner Castle Cape Subsection of the Western District, and the openings shall be based on achieving the Black Lake sockeye salmon escapement goals;

(2) from approximately June 26 through July 8,

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

(B) in order to continue managing the Black Lake sockeye salmon harvest and escapement, while assessing the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run strength, commercial salmon fishing in the Eastern District will, in the department's discretion, be disallowed or severely restricted;

(3) from the end of the transition period, described in (b)(2) of this section, until July 31, the department shall manage the commercial salmon fishery based on its evaluation of local pink and chum salmon runs, and the strength of the Chignik Lakes' system sockeye salmon;

(A) From July 9 to July 31 in the Eastern District, the department shall manage the fishery as follows:

(i) The fishery may remain open during normal fishing periods until the harvest exceeds 20,000 sockeye salmon based on fish ticket information;

(ii) When the harvest exceeds 20,000 sockeye salmon based on fish ticket information, the commissioner shall restrict, by emergency order, the fishery to waters of the Eastern District to sections 272-95, 272-91, 272-81, 272-73, 272-74, 272-71, and 272-73.

(4) after July 31, the department shall manage the commercial salmon fishery based on its evaluation of local pink, chum, and coho salmon runs or the strength of the Chignik Lake sockeye salmon run.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The WASSIP data shows a mixed stock harvest of sockeye salmon in the Chignik Management Area (CMA) Western and Perryville districts and ADF&G Fishery Manuscript Series No. 16-10 shows a mixed harvest of sockeye salmon in the Kodiak Management Area (KMA) Cape Igvak section. The CMA Eastern district lies in between these districts so it can be assumed that there is a mixed stock sockeye salmon harvest in the CMA Eastern district as well. To protect non Chignik Lakes bound sockeye stocks while allowing harvest of local pink and chum stocks after the transition period there should be a sockeye harvest cap in the Eastern district after which the fishery is limited to the bays to target local pinks and chums.

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