PROPOSAL 123

5 AAC 09.310. Fishing seasons.

Amend fishing seasons to allow more fishing time and area for set net gear in the Cinder River Section, as follows:

If the outside district does open in july there could potentially be some effort to target the under utilized Cinder River sockeye run. I hope the board considers opening the Cinder River outside section on July 1st up to 1/2 mile off the beach for set net gear which is allowed for area T bristol Bay permits and area M setnet permits in the over lap salmon fishery. By current regulations the outside Cinder River section only opens after August 1st for the over lap fishery. By then the sockeye run is pretty much over. Thank you for your consideration.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Hello chairman and board of fish. My name is Dia kuzmin 3rd generation fisherman born and raised in alaska. I fished in area M on the north side for 6 seasons and the last year tried Setneting. I would like the board to consider possibly opening the Cinder River outside section up to 1/2 mile for set net fishing in july. I checked the area last season inside the Cinder River lagoon section where it's open to fish during july. The area is to shallow to fish inside the lagoon. Even at high tide it was still very shallow. I was touching bottom even at full high tide couldn't find any suitable area to set my set net. There is almost zero fishing effort in Cinder River most years. It's one of the only sockeye salmon runs in the state that the salmon run is not utilized and most years it exceeds the high end escapement goals.