

**PROPOSAL 54**

**5 AAC 24.361. Copper River King Salmon Management Plan.**

Restrict use of Copper River District inside closure area during statistical weeks 20 and 21, as follows:

(b) In the commercial fishery, during the statistical weeks 20 and 21, the commissioner may not **close** [open] more than **three** [ONE] 12-hour fishing periods within the inside closure area of the Copper River District described in 5 AAC 24.350(1)(B).

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The 3 mandatory inside closures have been taken way too far by management. We no longer have an inside district fishery at all until July, even on years of Chinook abundance like 2023 we were shut out of our traditional fishing areas for far too long. This proposal would maintain the 3 inside closures currently in regulation but the change would require the opening of one inside district during a potential fourth fishing period during weeks 20 and 21, but only if there is an opener.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.** This idea is widely supported by the Cordova fleet.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kenneth B. Jones

(HQ-F24-011)

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