

PROPOSAL 69

5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

Establish restrictions when dipnetting from a boat in the Chitina Subdistrict, as follows:

(C) Salmon may be taken only with dip nets. Salmon taken with a dipnet from a powerboat will be subject to more time and area restrictions to allow fish passage to return to a pattern that more closely resembles past practices in the fishery.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The change in the nature, efficiency and scope of area not previously accessed by the Personal Use fishery in the Chitina Subdistrict. The use of power boats and especially the increase in charter power boats has allowed the take of fish holding on the bottom of the river during high water events and throughout the season in areas the were never before fished or exploited. This change in harvest method and area combined with increased commercialization is a drastic change that the Department has not fully recognized.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Coordinated with others watching the river activities.

PROPOSED BY: Shawn Gilman

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