

UPPER COOK INLET FINFISH

PROPOSAL 73 - 5 AAC 27.409. Central District Herring Management Plan.
Amend these regulations as follows:

(a) The purpose of this management plan is allow [TO FOSTER THE COMPLETE RECOVERY OF] the herring fisheries of the Central District of the Cook Inlet Area [. THIS PLAN SETS OUT INTERIM STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING ALL CENTRAL DISTRICT HERRING FISHERIES IN ORDER TO DEVELOP BIOLOGICALLY SOUND AND SUSTAINABLE HERRING FISHERIES] while minimizing the bycatch of salmon and char.

(b) Herring fishing in the Central District will occur only in the waters of Upper Subdistrict, Kalgin Island Subdistrict, Western Subdistrict, and Chinitna Bay Subdistrict as described in 5 AAC 21.200(b).

(c) the open season is from April 20 through May 31, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, herring fishing periods as described in (d) of this subsection;

(d) the commissioner may open and close, by emergency order, a herring fishery for one fishing period per week, beginning on Monday 6:00 a.m. and closing Friday 6:00 p.m.; a fishing period may not last longer than 108 hours; a fishing period may extend beyond May 31 if it begins before that date and is not longer than 108 hours in length;

(e) [c] To participate in a Central District herring fishery, a person must register with the department's Soldotna Office prior to fishing. [NO LATER THAN APRIL 10 OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE PERSON INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE]. A person shall report fishing time and herring harvested, whether sold or retained for personal use, to that office by noon of the day following the harvest. [WITHIN 12 HOURS OF THE CLOSURE OF A FISHING PERIOD DURING WHICH THE PERSON PARTICIPATED OR HARVESTED HERRING IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT, OR AS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT.]

(f) In the Upper Subdistrict a person may not fish for herring closer than 600 feet of the mean high tide mark on the Kenai Peninsula; the department may expand, by emergency order, this closed area in order to minimize the bycatch of salmon and char.

[(1) THE DEPARTMENT WILL MONITOR THE CATCH PER UNIT EFFORT, AGE COMPOSITION, BYCATCH, AND OTHER ASPECTS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO CONDUCT A CONSERVATIVE, LOW-LEVEL FISHERY;

(2) THE DEPARTMENT WILL PERFORM ASSESSMENT STUDIES OF AGE COMPOSITION IN ORDER TO MONITOR FUTURE RECRUITMENT, AND IT WILL MAKE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FISHERY BASED UPON STOCK TRENDS;

(3) FROM APRIL 20 THROUGH MAY 31, THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, HERRING FISHING PERIODS AS DESCRIBED IN (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION;

(4) THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN AND CLOSE, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, A HERRING FISHERY FOR ONE FISHING PERIOD PER WEEK, BEGINNING ON MONDAY 6:00 A.M. AND CLOSING FRIDAY 6:00 P.M.; A FISHING PERIOD MAY NOT LAST LONGER THAN 108 HOURS; A FISHING PERIOD MAY EXTEND BEYOND MAY 31 IF IT BEGINS BEFORE THAT DATE AND IS NOT LONGER THAN 108 HOURS IN LENGTH;

(5) THE GUIDELINE HARVEST RANGE IS 0 - 40 TONS OF HERRING;

(6) A PERSON MAY NOT FISH FOR HERRING CLOSER THAN 600 FEET OF THE MEAN HIGH TIDE MARK ON THE KENAI PENINSULA; THE DEPARTMENT MAY EXPAND, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THIS CLOSED AREA IN ORDER TO DECREASE THE EMERGENCY ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE BYCATCH OF SALMON AND CHAR.

(E) IN THE CHINITNA BAY, KALGIN ISLAND, AND WESTERN SUBDISTRICTS:

(1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALLOW A HERRING FISHERY IF IT HAS ASSESSED THE AGE COMPOSITION OF HERRING STOCKS WHERE THE FISHERY WILL OCCUR AND IF IT HAS DETERMINED THAT A HEALTHY STOCK STRUCTURE EXISTS;

(2) THE DEPARTMENT WILL MANAGE THE FISHERIES IN TUXEDNI BAY AND CHINITNA BAY IN ORDER TO ASSURE SUSTAINED YIELD, AND WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE STOCK STATUS AND ASSESSMENTS OF THE HERRING STOCK LANDED;

(3) FROM APRIL 20 THROUGH MAY 31, THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, HERRING FISHING PERIODS AS DESCRIBED IN (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION;

(4) THE COMMISSIONER MAY OPEN, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE FISHERY FOR TWO FISHING PERIODS PER WEEK, ONE BEGINNING ON MONDAY AND ONE BEGINNING ON THURSDAY; EACH FISHING PERIOD MAY NOT LAST LONGER THAN 30 HOURS; A FISHING PERIOD MAY EXTEND BEYOND MAY 31 IF IT BEGINS BEFORE THAT DATE AND IS NOT LONGER THAN 30 HOURS IN LENGTH;]

(1) [(5)] the guideline harvest range for the

(A) Chinitna Bay Subdistrict is 0 - 40 tons of herring;

(B) Western Subdistrict is 0 - 50 tons of herring.

(C) Kalgin Island Subdistrict is 0 - 20 tons of herring.

(D) Upper Subdistrict is 0-40 tons.

(g) Repealed 3/8/2002.

PROBLEM: Rewrite the Central District Herring Management Plan to simplify and correct errors that have occurred in the regulation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department will open the season by emergency order which will lead to confusion for many users.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Herring Fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-266)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 74 - 5 AAC 21.387. Prohibition on the use of aircraft. Prohibit use of spotter pilots as follows:

Use of aircraft unlawful. A person may not use or employ an aircraft to locate salmon for the commercial taking of salmon or to direct commercial fishing operations in the Upper Cook Inlet Area one hour before, during, and one hour after a commercial salmon fishing period.

ISSUE: I want the Board to reinstitute the prohibition on spotter pilots that was in effect until it was changed in 2005.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Spotter pilots will continue to be used adding additional costs to an already over capitalized fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, eliminates concentrations of boats in areas where fish are and allows a few boats that locate a school of fish to harvest those fish more slowly.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users except those that employ aircraft.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Spotters and those who need them to fish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Chris Kempf

(HQ-07F-022)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Homer AC4
Sustina Valley AC11	Anchorage AC9	Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45		
Chris Kempf PC8	UCIDA PC30	Central Peninsula AC8

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 75 - 5 AAC 21.378. Prohibition on the use of aircraft. Prohibit use of spotter planes within one hour of commercial open periods as follows:

A person may not use or employ an aircraft to locate salmon for the commercial taking of salmon or to direct commercial fishing operations in the upper Cook Inlet area one hour before, during and one hour after a commercial salmon fishing period.

ISSUE: Prohibit the use of aircraft for spotting or directly salmon drift boats in Cook Inlet.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Too often planes are used on days when the fleet is fishing in restricted areas & are used to keep track of enforcement. When the coast is clear, boats slip into restricted areas of fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It would improve the quality of the resource in that boats would not be able to target weak stocks that the Dept. is trying to enhance.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Honest fisherman and weak stocks.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Dishonest fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Daniel R. Hakkinen

(HQ-07F-098)

FAVOR

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 76 - 5 AAC 21.200(b)(2)(C). Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections. Modify drift gillnet area for Kasilof Section as follows:

Put prior area waters back in place in regulations:

Change (C) Kasilof Section: 151 degrees 25.70' W. long., to prior waters in regulation.

(C) to a point at 60 degrees 27.10' N. lat. 151 degrees **25.05 W. long.** [25.70']

ISSUE: Drift area expanded at the last board meeting allowed extra three or more drift boats to operate seaward in an area instead of what was in prior regulation. This change was allocation guised as safety issue.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Allocation of Kenai River late-run sockeye from this change and managing of late-run harder on low runs.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Probably Fish and Game managing on low runs. Everyone who will not be closed earlier to reach the lower end of Kenai River sockeye escapement goal.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Drift who fish in this expanded area of .2 mile.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. The BOF has allocated authority but the allocation criteria was not talked about when the drift proposal came up.

PROPOSED BY: Owen Geer

(HQ-07F-131)

FAVOR

Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 77 - 5 AAC 21.200(b)(c) Fishing districts, subdistricts, and sections.

Redefine demarcation of Kenai and Kasilof sections as follows:

Redefine the demarcation of the Kenai and Kasilof sections (the Blanchard Line) as a point one-half mile north of the north bank of the Kasilof River.

ISSUE: Current Kasilof setnet management areas are not adequate. Excessive use of the Kasilof terminal fishing area in years of big Kasilof sockeye runs is ineffective for regulating Kasilof sockeye escapement and has caused a variety of fishery problems and conflicts, making it extremely unpopular with commercial fishers. However, the current Kasilof setnet area is not adequate to protect Kenai fish when those runs are weak. The northern boundary of the Kasilof River set net fishing area (Blanchard line) does not provide adequate protection of Kenai fish during Kasilof cockeye target fisheries. The setnet fishery from the Kasilof River mouth to the Blanchard Line is a mixed stock fishery for Kasilof and Kenai River sockeye and chinook. Intensive Kasilof fisheries in big run years intercept large numbers of Kenai fish. Kenai escapements and fisheries suffer as a result. For instance, big Kasilof fisheries in 2006 would have caused Kenai sockeye escapement to fall short of goals if the run had been on time rather than late. Large king harvests in set net fisheries north of the Kasilof also add to the excessive harvest of this sport fishery. Commercial fishery managers have consistently failed to implement effective management measures to limit king bycatch in sockeye target fisheries. Redefining the Kasilof area to exclude areas one-half mile north of the north bank of the Kasilof River would be much more effective strategy for selectively targeting Kasilof fish and avoiding Kenai fish, including kings.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Commercial fishery managers will continue to lack effective tools for independently managing Kasilof and Kenai stocks. Kasilof setnet fishery areas will remain inadequate for targeting large Kasilof sockeye. Kasilof target fisheries will continue to have unwanted effects on Kenai escapement and in-river fishery opportunities.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit from effective management to achieve escapement goals of all stocks. Setnet permit holders south of the Kasilof will benefit in years of large Kenai sockeye runs when the Kenai run is weak. Setnet permit holders north of the Kasilof will benefit in years of large Kenai sockeye runs when the Kasilof run is weak. Commercial fishers operating north of the Blanchard line may get additional fishing time if the Kasilof fishery reduces its bycatch of sockeye bound for the Kenai and other systems. All setnet permit holders will share in sockeye fisheries when both runs are strong. Recreational and personal use sockeye fisheries on the Kenai will benefit from passing additional Kenai stocks through the Kasilof fishery. Kenai and Kasilof sport fisheries will benefit from increased opportunity when the excessive harvest of kings in the commercial setnet fishery is effectively addressed.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Better definition of the Kasilof section that better addresses the Kasilof stocks should provide benefit across the user groups. However, commercial fishers operating within the Kasilof fishing district may have to forego some harvest of sockeye and king salmon bound for the Kenai River and other river systems within Cook Inlet.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered redefining K-beach fishery areas from two areas to three with a central K-beach area to include the southern portion of north K-beach area to include the southern portion of north K-beach and the northern portion of south K-beach. The new central K beach area would be fished when both the Kenai and Kasilof sockeye runs were strong but closed when either needed to be protected. This alternative was rejected because the proposed change is simpler and less disruptive. We also considered other alternatives for reducing excessive king catches in the commercial setnet fishery such a shallower set nets. Research has demonstrated that king bycatch can be reduced by use of shallower nets but commercial fishery managers have failed to follow up on this research with further experiments, new regulations or test fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-163)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Sustina Valley AC11

Homer AC1
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 78 - 5 AAC 21.320. Weekly fishing periods. Reopen the Southside of Chinitna Bay to gillnetting as follows:

(vii) along the north side of Chinitna Bay from 59° 53.17' N. lat., 153° W. long., to 59° 51.52' N. lat., 153° 08.17' W. long and only within 2,500 feet of the mean high tide mark **and on the South side of the bay, east of a line from the crane on the south shore at 59° 51.72' N. lat., 153 07.84' W. long and only within 2,500 feet of the mean high tide mark;**

ISSUE: I want the Board to reopen the south side of Chinitna Bay to set gillnetting during regular periods.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? I will have to travel to the north side of the bay and fight the weather.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, I will be able to monitor my nets better and pick fish more often since I live on the south side of the bay.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anyone wanting to set gillnet on the south side of the bay.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one is fishing in the bay so there is little impact.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None

PROPOSED BY: Mike Carpenter (HQ-07F-025)

FAVOR

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Sustina Valley AC11

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 79 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Remove restrictions from drift and set gillnet fisheries for coho protection as follows:

(c)(i) Kasilof Section: from June 25 through August **15** [10], unless closed earlier by emergency order under (iii) of the subparagraph; however, if the department estimates that 50,000 sockeye salmon are in the Kasilof River before June 25, but on or after June 20, the commissioner may immediately, by emergency order, open the fishery;

(ii) Kenai and East Forelands Sections: from July **1** [8] through August **15** [10] unless

closed earlier by emergency order under (iii) of the subparagraph,

(iii) Kenai, Kasilof, and East Forelands Sections; the season will close August **15** [10] unless closed earlier by emergency, [ORDER AFTER JULY 31, AFTER THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF THE SEASON'S TOTAL SOCKEYE HARVEST HAS BEEN TAKEN PER FISHING PERIOD FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE FISHING PERIODS; FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUB-PARAGRAPH, "FISHING PERIOD", MEANS A TIME PERIOD OPEN TO COMMERCIAL FISHING WITHOUT CLOSURE;]

(3) Central District, for drift gillnet; from the third Monday in June or June 19 whichever is later, until closed by emergency order, except that fishing with drift gillnets may not occur within two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict until those locations have been opened for fishing with set gillnets and the area **within 5 miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline is closed after August 15;**

ISSUE: Management of the commercial fisheries to meet the escapement goals for UCI stocks. In 2000 the BOF accepted a petition and restricted the set gillnet and drift fishery because of a perceived problem with coho salmon. This problem was not real and those restrictions should now be removed.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to waste about one third of the surplus fish available for harvest in UCI because of some ill-defined goals of "meaningful sport fish opportunity". In all other areas of the state the sport fishery has a meaningful opportunity when the escapement goals are achieved.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of salmon in a predictable and reasonable fashion and return the commercial season to what it was before it was messed with for no apparent gain. It would return the commercial fishery to a time when the plans worked and provide for a meaningful opportunity to harvest the salmon available surplus to escapement needs. Kings and coho are not an issue as the goals have been achieved every year. This is to put so many fish in-river so that even poor fishermen can "snag" a fish. This is a colossal waste and benefits to no one.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? In the long term everyone who fishes because the returns should be more stable and predictable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, managing for reasonable escapement goals is the one success the department has been bragging about for years.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-220)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Sustina Valley AC11
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 80 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Modify the dates of the Central District for the Kenai and East Forelands sections as follows:

(2)(C)(ii) Kenai and East Forelands Sections from July 1 [8] through August 15 [10].

Delete windows.

ISSUE: A gross inequity in fishing opportunity by time available in the Kenai and East Forelands setnet areas. Fishing Season opening and closing dates have been significantly reduced in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections; available opportunity has been further reduced by mandatory closure times (closed days in windows). A thirty-seven percent (37%) reduction on available fishing time from June 25 - August 15 dates has occurred by comparison to the current season opening and closing dates of July 8 - August 10. When mandatory limitations on time (windows) were put in, on Kenai River late-run sockeye runs between two to four million fish, an increased unavailable fishing time of sixty percent (60%) went into effect.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will continue to be a gross inequity in available fishing opportunity in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections. Drift gillnet opens June 19 and until closed by emergency order after August 11. Continued significant reduced time available compared to other areas or gear groups, including lost sockeye harvests on regular weekly fishing periods that otherwise would have been open.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Early market demand for quality fresh sockeye. Harvesting sockeye available on or after August 10 protects the resource from over escapement problems on production.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set net Fisherman in Kenai and East Forelands sections. The July 1 opening season date (in prior regulation) allows valuable safety training time, and one or two regular 12-hour periods of harvest opportunity. The August 15 seasons ending date represents at least one regular 12-hour period for sockeye harvest that otherwise would be foregone (even when the goals are exceeded).

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? June 25, July 1 opening date in prior management plans. Considered July 5 but rejected because in some years the first regular fishing period wouldn't start till July 7 or 8. Considered Season closing date similar to drift plan date closed by EO but rejected because August 15 is our historical season closed date.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association

(HQ-07F-454)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8

Sustina Valley AC11

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC12

Gary Hollier PC46

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 81 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing Seasons. Change season dates for Kenai and East Forelands Sections as follows:

(B) (iv) by set gillnets in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections from July 1 [8] through August 15 [7], unless closed earlier by emergency order; when July 1 [8] falls within a closed weekly period, the season will open the next open weekly period, unless the department estimates that 100.000 sockeye salmon are in the Kenai River before that date, at which time the department may open the fishery; however, the fishery may not open before June 25;

ISSUE: Management of the commercial fisheries to meet the escapement goals for the Kenai River. The starting date for the Kenai and East Forelands Sections is too late and the ending date is too early to manage for many years.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the surplus fish available for harvest in UCI because of some ill-defined goals of “meaningful sport fish opportunity”. The Kenai River is the only river in the state with this “goal” of ever increasing escapement without any measurable benefit to anyone.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of Kenai River sockeye in a predictable and reasonable fashion. This would return the commercial fishery to a time when the plans worked and provide for a meaningful opportunity to harvest the available surplus to escapement. Kings are not an issue as the goals has been achieved every year.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for the Kenai River and the Kasilof River for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, managing for reasonable escapement goals is the one success the department has been bragging about for years. Kenai Chinook should not be the only stock that concerns the BOF. If changes are not made soon the gasoline problem in-river will get worse and banks will continue to get trampled

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Everything else has already been tried and failed.

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-221)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Sustina Valley AC11

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Gary Hollier PC46

KRSA PC27
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 82 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Open Kenai and East Forelands sections as follows:

The Kenai and East Forelands Section should open on July 1.

ISSUE: Too late of an opening date in the Kenai East Forelands Sections. I would like these sections open on July 1, instead of July 8. Lack of fishing opportunity along with the safety factor of training a crew for fishermen in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The current regulation reads Salmon may only be taken in the Kenai East Forelands Sections: from July 8... With a Monday and Thursday regular scheduled periods, if July 8 falls on Friday, the first regular period in these sections would be Monday July 11. This happened in 2005. At this date there are usually fish in the area. It would be nice to have a few extra days to train the crew. It seems that every year most set-netters have some new and "green" crew that need to be trained. There is also lost fishing opportunity. The Kenai River has exceeded its in-river goals the past five years. The Kasilof River has exceeded its goal 9 out of the past 10 years.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, salmon would be harvested earlier in the season, when they are fresher and worth more money, they could go to the new and expanding fresh market.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set-netters who fish in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The dip-net fishery in the Kenai River doesn't start until July 10. There are not many sportsmen fishing for sockeye on the Kenai River in the first week of July. Since the inception of the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan the biological escapement goal has always been met. The first week of July is in between the early and late king salmon runs. The harvest of king salmon would be minimal.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? These sections open on July 5. The result would be only one additional fishing day per year. I rejected this as it would be good for training the crew, yet there is no biological reason not to open on July 1.

PROPOSED BY: Gary L. Hollier

(HQ-07F-093)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Gary Hollier PC46

Anchorage AC9
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 83 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Extend the Upper Subdistrict late-run sockeye salmon season to August 15 as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.310
(2)(C)(i) Amend: **August 15** [10]

ISSUE: Even though the 2005 board removed the Kenai River coho salmon management plan - a season closing date of August 10 remains in regulation.

The preliminary Kenai River coho smolt date in 1998 changed the season closing date from August 15 to August 10 in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery; the department acknowledged coho restriction based on that data are unfounded but the season closing date restriction still remains in regulation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Restrictions in regulation exist after a management plan has been removed. Harvestable (surplus to escapement) Kenai River late-run sockeye placed into escapement and precluded from harvest. Ninety five percent of Kenai River pink salmon stocks are currently wasted (estimate 5 million). Kenai River pink salmon run timing is between August 7 and August 30; the season closing date of August 10 severely precludes a pink salmon harvest on these stocks which are known to traditionally run inside waters along the beaches on even years.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Currently, improvement would be harvest on surplus stocks available now risking future yield (quality of the resource). Large sockeye salmon escapement events have occurred between August 10 - 15th; even though the upper end of the Kasilof and Kenai River late-run sockeye in-river goals are widely exceeded before this timeframe. Kenai River pink salmon are a marketable product; quality pink salmon purchase agreements from European Union continue to expand. The demand for quality pink salmon has increased yearly.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishing families.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Overall Kenai coho exploitation rates in set gillnet fisheries are minimal.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Extending seasons closing date in North K. beach, Kenai and East-Forelands from August 10 to August 15. Historically fishing season ending date of August 15 and those area waters should be returned to prior regulation equally.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association (HQ-07F-446)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Gary Hollier PC46

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 84 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Allow set gillnet fishing until August 15 as follows:

Close the Upper Cook Inlet set gillnet fishery on the first Monday or Thursday before August 15.

ISSUE: The problem I would like to address is the closure of the Cook Inlet East Side set gillnet fisheries. This fishery should not close until August 15, the sockeye salmon run appears to be returning later and later each year, and the pink salmon run is starting to come back stronger. Due to economic hardships, fisherman must be given this time to harvest these fish to prevent over escapement and lack of harvest of the Pink Salmon run.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Each year we will continue to see over escapement in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers. In years such as 2005 and 2006 where the fish ran late, fishermen were not given the chance to harvest the late run of sockeye salmon and pink salmon creating a large over escapement in both rivers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, there is a market that will process the millions of pink salmon and the late run of sockeye salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The entire Kenai Peninsula will benefit by keeping the fish economy in business for a longer period of time.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one will suffer if this regulation is passed.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Gary Deiman

(HQ-07F-087)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Gary Hollier PC46

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 85 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Delay season closure for Kenai and East Forelands sections as follows:

Extend season.

ISSUE: Fishing season closes too early in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lost fishing opportunity. Especially on even number years when pink salmon are abundant Kenai River has exceeded its in-river escapement goal the last 5 years. This is an opportunity to catch excess sockeye salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? There is opportunity to catch good quality pink salmon. Sockeye salmon are still very marketable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All fishermen in the Kenai and East Foreland sections.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. There is ample in-river opportunities to harvest coho, pink, and sockeye salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Open fishing season until August 20 on even years, but did not feel that this would have a chance of passing.

PROPOSED BY: Gary L. Hollier (HQ-07F-095)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Gary Hollier PC46

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 86 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Specify that the set net fishery will close by emergency order as follows:

The setnet fishery will close by emergency order.

ISSUE: Unnecessary commercial closer.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Under utilized salmon resource.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Allows harvest of under utilized salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those few who participate.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The salmon resource at this time of year is not being utilized at even close to the biological exploitation rate.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-459)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 87 - 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(c)(iii). Fishing seasons. Clarify transition between sockeye management and coho management as follows:

5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(c)(iii) Kenai, Kasilof, and East Forelands Sections: the season shall close August 10, unless closed earlier by emergency order after July 31, after the department determines that less than **five** [ONE] percent of the season's total sockeye harvest has been taken per fishing period for two consecutive fishing periods; for purposes of this sub-subparagraph, "fishing period" means a time period open to commercial fishing without closure for at least 12 and not more than 24 hours.

ISSUE: During the January 2005 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting department staff and members of the various user groups arrived at an approach to define when the Department would transition from sockeye salmon management. Although numerous approaches were discussed the one that was eventually agreed to was to define the termination of the commercial sockeye season to be when the commercial catch was 1 percent or less of the cumulative season total for 2 consecutive commercial fishing periods. This agreement was part of a complex set of negotiations and collaborative efforts among users. The board took action on this approach and adopted to it into regulation. Following that action ADF&G staff took steps intended to "clarify" the regulation and the result is the language we presently have in 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(C)(iii). This provision now contains language that was inserted during the editing process that, if followed to the letter, subverts the intent of the board when it passed this regulation in January 2005. The inserted language redefines a fishing period to include "a time period open to commercial fishing without closure". Under this inserted language this could include several days rather than the daily periods upon which the 1 percent trigger was selected. There is no record that the language in question was ever formally acted on by the board (RC or Amendment to the proposal by a board member during deliberations) and although intended to help clarify the regulation the added language has the opposite effect.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The transition between sockeye salmon management and coho salmon management will continue to be ill defined and the original intent of the Board passed regulation will continue to be ignored. The sport priority for coho salmon will be ignored. The sport priority for coho salmon will be ignored and potential harm to early run coho stocks may occur through high exploitation.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The sport priority for coho salmon found in regulation will be factored into the management decision making process.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial fishermen who benefit from extended late season commercial fishing periods that are offered under the guise of sockeye salmon periods but were the catch of coho salmon constitutes a significant number of fish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because when offered the opportunity commercial fish management staff called an unprecedented 80 hour commercial period to side step the regulation as it is currently written.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association

(HQ-07F-158)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 88 - 5 AAC 21.310(c)(iii) Fishing seasons. Amend management plan as follows:

Delete: [KENAI, KASILOF, AND EASTE FORELANDS SECTIONS; THE SEASON WILL CLOSE AUGUST 10, UNLESS CLOSED EARLIER BY EMERGENCY ORDER AFTER JULY 31, AFTER THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF THE SEASON’S TOTAL SOCKEYE HARVEST HAS BEEN TAKEN PER FISHING PERIOD FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE FISHING PERIODS; FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUB-SUBPARAGRAPH, “FISHING PERIODS MEANS A TIME PERIOD OPEN TO FISHING WITHOUT CLOSURE;]

ISSUE: Prescribed harvest closure based on a percentage of sockeye salmon harvest may close the Kenai, Kasilof, and East Forelands. This provision can ridiculously close the commercial set gillnet fisheries based solely on two consecutive fishing periods; large salmon escapement events have occurred and will occur in August regardless if a lull in sockeye harvest occurs during the first days in August.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Large salmon escapement events can continue, sockeye escapement exceeding established goals, loss of harvest based on unknowns (sockeye available within August), risk sockeye production.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Harvesting sockeye salmon allows for “improving the quality of the resource and products produced.”

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set gillnet sockeye fishery management based on practical fishery provisions consistent with escapement goals.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The old Kenai River coho conservation plan was repealed in 2005; restrictions were lifted for commercial drift, commercial set through August 10, and October sport fishery put back in place.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? N/A. Arbitrary provisions should not be in regulation.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association (HQ-07F-447)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 89 - 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Close Central District commercial fishery by executive order as follows:

Close fishery by emergency order.

ISSUE: Close fishery by emergency order.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lost opportunity. Wasted fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? The fishery should be open when fish are present.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Monday, Wednesday, and Friday fishing.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs (HQ-07F-036)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Central Peninsula AC8	Anchorage AC9
		Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
		Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
		KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 90 - 5 AAC 21.320. Weekly fishing periods. Change weekly fishing periods as follows:

5 AAC 21.320 Weekly fishing periods: After August 10 the regular periods are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7 AM to 7 PM until closed by emergency order.

ISSUE: Unutilized salmon resources in August and September.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? These salmon resources will continue to be wasted.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will allow harvest of ocean run salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those few fishermen who will participate in this late fishery. Processors, local economy.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Status quo will continue to forego the harvestable surplus.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. Status quo will continue to forego the harvestable surplus.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-455)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 91 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Repeal mandatory July 17 and 26 restrictions for the Kenai and Kasilof rivers as follows:

Repeal mandatory July 17 and 26 restrictions.

ISSUE: Repeal mandatory July 17 and 26 restrictions, the biologist can manage to the plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Wasted fish to Kasilof and Kenai.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users of Kenai and Kasilof fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? More early openings.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs (HQ-07F-035)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 92 - 5 AAC 57.170. Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan.

Repeal Kenai River coho plan as follows:

Repeal coho restrictions. There is no biological problem.

ISSUE: Repeal the Kenai River Coho plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lost opportunity, economic loss and waste.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Fishermen are cut off from late sockeyes, there is no shortage of coho.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Managing while fish are present.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs

(HQ-07F-033)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 93 - 5 AAC 21.310.(b)(2)(C)(i). Fishing seasons. Amend management plan as follows:

Kasilof section: from June 25 through August 10, unless closed earlier by emergency order under (iii) of this subparagraph; however if the department estimates that 25,000 [50,000] sockeye salmon are in the Kasilof River before June 15. . .

ISSUE: Kasilof River sockeye escapement goal has been exceeded in nine out of ten previous years.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Salmon will be wasted.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Early sockeye have a history of being excellent quality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kasilof section set netters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Open date similar to Central district drift (third Monday in June or June 19). Reduction in escapement rate was considered a reasonable solution.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association (HQ-07F-448)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 94 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons. Reopen set gillnet season south of Blanchard line after June 15 as follows:

Open set gillnet fishing on the East side of the upper Cook Inlet south of the Blanchard Line on the first Monday or Thursday period after June 15.

ISSUE: Re-open set gillnet season to June 15, south of the Blanchard Line, on the East side of the upper Cook Inlet.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If this problem is not solved we will continue to see an over escapement of salmon in the Kasilof River and undue economic hardship to set gillnet fishing families and businesses.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, the first sockeye salmon that enter the Cook Inlet are beautiful silver fish without any blush color appearing yet. Most are Category One fish that create a strong appearance in the market. Category One fish sell for a higher price, concluding that they are more valuable to fishermen and processors.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The entire Kenai Peninsula will benefit, everyone from fisherman, cannery's, gas stations, trucking businesses, and airlines. Not only will people benefit but, Tustumena Lake and the salmon spawning beds along the Kasilof River due to not over escaping the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one will suffer if the river is managed properly. All user groups will benefit due to good management and larger and stronger runs.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Gary Deiman

(HQ-07F-086)

FAVOR

- Central Peninsula AC8
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

OPPOSE

- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Sustina Valley AC11
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
- KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 95 - 5 AAC 21.320. Weekly fishing periods. Change weekly fishing periods as follows:

- (a) In the set gillnet fishery,
 - (1) salmon may be taken in the Northern District from 7:00 a.m. Monday and from 7:00 p.m. **Friday** [THURSDAY];
 - (2) salmon may be taken in the Central District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. **Friday** [THURSDAY] until 7:00 p.m. **Friday** [THURSDAY];
 - (3) salmon may be taken in the Southern District from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and from 6:00 a.m. Wednesday and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday;
 - (4) the fishing periods set forth in (1) - (3) of this subsection may be modified by emergency order.
- (b) in the dirt gillnet fishery
 - (1) salmon may be taken in the Central District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Monday and from 7:00 a.m. **Friday** [THURSDAY] until 7:00 p.m. **Friday** [THURSDAY];

ISSUE: Return regular periods to Mondays and Fridays.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The commercial fishery will continue to fish more on Saturdays and Sundays, causing problems for personal use fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the harvest of Kenai River sockeye without fishing so much on the weekends

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for Kenai River sockeye salmon

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-222)

FAVOR

Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Sustina Valley AC11

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 96 - 5 AAC 21.320 (b)(1). **Weekly fishing periods.** Change Central District fishing periods as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.320 (b)(1) as follows:

Salmon may be taken in the Central District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Monday, from 7:00 a.m. Wednesday until 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, Friday to 7:00 a.m. Friday...

ISSUE: The current weekly fishing periods consist of two 12-hour periods. This proposal would increase the number of fishing periods in the drift gillnet fishery to three 12-hour weekly fishing periods. These periods would be on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. This proposal would increase the quality of the product harvested in Cook Inlet by the drift gillnet fleet and reestablish the historical harvest percentage by the drift gillnet fleet.

Presently, with restrictions on time and area the drift gillnet fishery is forced into being a peak fishery. The fleet during the peak harvest is severely hampered to properly handle, ice and bleed fish for better quality. Processors must hold fish for longer times before processing which results in a lost quality than could be achieved with this proposal. This proposal is intended to provide for even harvests.

In addition, the economic situation of the commercial fishery has resulted in a reduction of the drift fleet from approximately 600 actively fishing boats to 400. This has resulted in a lower harvest percentage of sockeye salmon by the fleet. Limitations on fishing areas and times in existing management plans do not recognize this loss of fishing power. This proposal should help restore the balance of harvest between all users to the inlet.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The quality of product in Cook Inlet will not improve and the drift gillnet fleet will continue to suffer loss of market share as a result of economic limitations.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. The drift gillnet fleet typical harvest between 500 and 1,200 fish on average per vessel during the peak period. This proposal is intended to lower the per vessel harvest by reducing fishing time per period. Both during the peak of the fishery and adjacent to the peak the number of fish per vessels should be reduced to allow proper quality control of the product. In addition, this regulation should provide an incentive to fishermen to modify their vessels to increase quality of the harvest. The increased financial reward from high quality product and the reestablishment of the historical harvest percentage should be a sufficient positive for fishermen to expand the funds and time to make this conversion.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The industry and the drift gillnet fleet is the obvious benefactor of this proposal. The industry benefits by having higher quality product and the drift gillnet fleet benefits from both quality and increased harvest.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The reestablishment of the historical harvest percentage should not hurt other commercial users if viewed in the long term. However, relative to recent trends commercial set gillnet permit holders will be impacted negatively. Relative to other users the impact should be minimal since management plans and allocations of the resources.

It should be noted that the fishing time recommendation assumes the same catch or higher will be made fishing three 12-hour periods as opposed to two 12-hour periods. It is the intent of this proposal to maintain the long-term harvest patterns and not be reallocation. If this becomes an issue then adjustments to fishing time should take place. This proposal does nothing to the department's emergency order authority to modify fishing times or area for biological concerns. Therefore, there should be no negative impact on escapements.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Consideration of a ten-hour period was given. However, in Cook Inlet ten hours is so short that fishers tend to search out fish more before the period and the decrease in fishing power and harvest may not be as great as with ten hours. In addition, a ten-hour period does not allow a fisherman to make repairs to vessels suffering mechanical breakdowns without losing the period. This would be a significant hardship for some. Also, the late area and tides of Cook Inlet would negatively impact fishing opportunities during a period of shorter duration.

PROPOSED BY: Bob Wolfe

(HQ-07F-387)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Chris Kempf PC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 97 - 5 AAC 21.320(b)(1). Weekly fishing periods. Allow commercial harvests of salmon from time specified on Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the Central District as follows:

Modify section 5 AAC 21.320(b)(1) to read **“salmon may be taken in the Central District from XX:00 a.m. Monday until XX:00 p.m. Monday, from XX:00 a.m. Wednesday until XX:00 p.m. Wednesday, and from XX:00 a.m. Friday until XX:00 p.m. Friday, except salmon may be taken...”**

ISSUE: Overview: In order to revitalize the commercial salmon fishery, to provide for stable and predictable fishery based on principles and to promote higher quality seafood products, we need to regulatory changes contained in this proposal to be made by the Board of Fisheries. There are new markets that are responding very positively to the higher quality salmon products coming from Cook Inlet. There are three goals that are being achieved by this proposal: industry revitalization, improved quality, and stable supply of fish.

Revise the present weekly fishing periods consisting of two 12-hour periods. This portion of the proposal will revise the fishing periods in the drift gill net fishery and increase the number of weekly fishing periods to 3. These three periods would be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The reason for this proposal is to increase the quality of the product harvested in Cook Inlet by the drift gill fleet and reestablish the historical harvest patterns and percentage by the drift gill net fleet. Presently, fishing Monday and Thursdays with restrictions on time and area the fishery is forced to be a peak fishery. With a concentrated peak harvest regulated fishery it is not difficult to ice and bleed fish for quality. Processors must hold fish for longer times before processing which results in loss of quality. This part of the proposal in intended to allow a more even harvest and improve quality.

Limitations on fishing areas and times in existing management plans do not recognize this economic loss. This proposal should help restore the historic fishing patterns and balance of harvest between all users in the inlet.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The public will continue to have different expectations concerning the management actions to be taken by ADF&G staff which are in conflict in these plans and increased public dissatisfaction by the public with ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries. The commercial fishing community is struggling to survive, however; without these regulatory changes conflict, economic hardships, political unrest, lost economic benefits will occur. The quality of product in Cook Inlet will not improve and the drift gill net fleet will continue to suffer loss market share as result of economic limitations.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRDUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Many of these regulation changes are directed at improving quality. The increased flexibility of ADF&G to meet escapement goals should

increase quality by removing artificial and unnecessary limitations on fishing areas and times that creates a concentrated fishery. Additionally, the drift gill net fleet typical harvest between 500 and 1200 fish on average per vessel during the peak period. This proposal is intended to lower the per vessel harvest by increasing the number of fishing periods per week. Both during the peak of the fishery and adjacent to the peak the number of fish per vessel should be reduced to allow better quality control of the product. In addition, this regulation will provide an economic incentive for fishermen to modify their vessels to increase quality of the harvest. The increased financial reward from high quality product and the reestablishment of the historical harvest patterns and percentage will be a sufficient incentive for the existing fisherman to expend the funds and time to make the vessel conversions that are necessary to improve quality of fish harvested. In lieu of late-season, less-efficient terminal sockeye fisheries - this proposal would allow the drift fleet to harvest surpluses of sockeye when sockeye are at their highest quality during mid season. Lastly, allowing the drift fleet to fish historical periods outside the Kenai and Kasilof sections provide product to the processors that is higher quality than fish captured latter in the season when they move toward their rivers of origin. It also allows for an orderly harvest of product during large return years of sockeye salmon

The present regulation requires that the harvest of surplus sockeye salmon during extra periods take place in the Kenai and Kasilof sections only, including the Kasilof Terminal Harvest Area. This results in fish harvests of a low quality. In large return years the volume of harvest during the peak periods increases as fish tend to hold in the district and enter the near shore areas of large numbers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit with this regulation since it will be clear that the Board of Fish intends to manage the resource for escapement goals. Concerning the three fishing periods, the industry and the drift gillnet fleet is the obvious benefactor of this proposal. The industry benefits by having higher quality product and the drift gillnet fleet benefits form both quality and historic patterns of harvest. The commercial fishing industry will benefit as well as the drift gillnet fleet.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one should suffer. These regulatory changes do not alter the allocation of the resource between users and the escapement goals. The entry of salmon into the system is already controlled by ADF&G managers to achieve biological objectives relative to harvesting equally over the entire run.

The reestablishment of the historical harvest patterns and percentage should not hurt other commercial users when viewed in the long term. However, relative to other users the impact should be minimal since management plans and allocations were based on the drift fleet having nearly 600 fishing boats. Therefore, relative to these plans there should not be a reallocation of the resources since only 400 drift boats participate in these fisheries. It should be noted that the fishing time recommendation assumes the same catch or on one slightly higher will be made fishing 3 periods as opposed to two 12 hours periods. While the total fishing time is nearly the same it is anticipated that harvest will be greater but it is hard to say how much. This possible increased harvest, however, is not outside the historic drift gill net harvest with 600 boats fishing. It is the intent of this

proposal to maintain the long term historic harvest patterns and not be a reallocation. If this becomes an issue then adjustments to fishing time should take place.

These proposals do nothing to the Department's emergency order authority to modify fishing times or areas. The escapement objectives for all systems are maintained so there should be no impact on in-river users. There will be a lost harvest to set gill net fishermen who target Kenai and Kasilof sockeye stocks. However, this should not result in an upsetting of the historical harvest pattern. Other salmon stocks have not entered Cook Inlet in large numbers during this time frame so harvest of coho salmon should remain low.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Concerning managing for escapement goals there are no other alternatives. If limitations on time and area are left in place the conflict over which takes priority escapement goals or time and area restrictions will continue. The Central District is about 1,800 square miles in size making the location of salmon difficult. Additionally in Upper Cook Inlet we have some of the largest tides in the world. These tides associated tidal rips thoroughly mix the salmon on a daily basis. The fishing periods must be long enough to locate salmon in the 1800 square mile area during both flood and ebb tides. By decreasing the options used by the department that could be put into regulations, however, this would defeat the purpose of allowing flexibility. For example, the fishery could be allowed to fish regular periods with a restriction on the fishery to the area below Kalgin Island. This would accomplish the goal of lowering the exploitation rate but would not be needed in all years. Any regulation that does not allow for flexibility based on abundance of the stocks was rejected.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association

(HQ-07F-400)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Chris Kempf PC8
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 98 - 5 AAC 21.310(b)(3). Fishing seasons. Restrict drift gillnet use in Upper Subdistrict as follows:

Central District, for drift gillnet: from the third Monday in June or June 19 whichever is later, until closed earlier by emergency order, except fishing with drift gillnets may not occur within two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict until those locations have been opened for fishing with set gillnets, **including the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Forelands Sections set gillnet areas. Fishing with drift gillnets may not occur within two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict after the season closing of the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery.**

ISSUE: The department must state during the fishing season that drift gillnets are closed to set net areas in the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Forelands sections because it is not placed in current regulations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Set gillnet areas are subject to drift fishing if the department forgets to mention it during a drift opening.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? ADF&G.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Drift gillnet fisherman who take advantage of a situation if the department was remiss to describe drift closed waters properly.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? NA.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association (HQ-07F-451)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 99 - 5 AAC 21.310(b)(3). Fishing seasons. Clarify drift gillnet closure areas as follows:

Central District, for drift gillnet: from the third Monday in June or June 19 whichever is later, until closed earlier by emergency order, except fishing with drift gillnets may not occur within two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict until those locations have been opened for fishing with set gillnets, **closed in the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Forelands Sections set gillnet areas during the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishing season. Fishing with drift gillnets may not occur within two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict after the season closing of the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery.**

ISSUE: The department must state during the fishing season that drift gillnets are closed to set net areas in the Kasilof, Kenai, and East Forelands sections because it is not placed in current regulation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Set gillnet areas are subject to drift fishing if the department forgets to mention it during a drift opening.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? ADF&G.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Drift gillnet fisherman who take advantage of a situation if the department was remiss to describe drift closed waters properly.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? NA.

PROPOSED BY: Jeff Beaudoin

(HQ-07F-130)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
KRSA PC27

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 100 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons.; and 5 AAC 21.320. Weekly fishing periods. Open a commercial fishery in Tuxedni Bay as follows:

Commercial salmon fishing in statistical area 245-30 Tuxedni Bay will commence the first Monday after May 15, 7 AM to 7 PM Mondays and 7 AM to 7 PM Thursdays until 1,000 kings are caught. Legal gear is a single 35 fathom net.

ISSUE: Open a commercial fishery in Tuxedni Bay stat area 245-30 for regular periods beginning the first Monday at or after May 15. Legal gear would be a single 35 fathom net.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The resource will go unutilized and people of Alaska will be deprived contrary to their constitution.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. It is cooler in the early spring and the small quantity caught improves quality. There is usually lots of ice and snow to put on the fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? No hurt to others because these salmon go up Crescent River and are not utilized, also other streams in area. All the people of Alaska will benefit with an early supply of fresh fish, our children will be smarter.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody. Very few, if any of these fish go up the Susitna River.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? My neighbors in Tuxedni Bay have talked about this for years.

PROPOSED BY: Henry Kroll (HQ-07F-020)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
National Park Service Comments PC20
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 101 - 5 AAC 21.310. Fishing seasons; and 5 AAC 21.320. Weekly fishing periods. Open a commercial fishery in Tuxedni Bay as follows:

Commercial king salmon fishing in stat area 245-30 Tuxedni Bay will commence the first Monday after May 15, 7 AM to 7 PM Mondays and 7 AM to 7 PM Thursdays until 2000 kings are caught. Legal gear is a single 35 fathom net.

ISSUE: Open a commercial fishery for king salmon in statistical area 245-30 Tuxedni Bay.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The resource will go unutilized.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, this resource is currently unused and would provide kings for early markets.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All would benefit with early supply of fresh fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No, because these salmon go up the Crescent River and are not utilized.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Jennifer J. Porter

(HQ-07F-023)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
National Park Service Comments PC20
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 102 - 5 AAC 21.331 (h). Gillnet specifications and operations.

Provide flexibility in regulation for the use of single filament gillnet web as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(h) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.250 (c), in the Cook Inlet Area, the commissioner may close, by emergency order, a fishing season and immediately reopen a season during which a person may use up to **150** [50] fathoms of monofilament mesh web in a drift gillnet or up to 35 fathoms of monofilament mesh web in a set gillnet. Before a person uses monofilament mesh web under this subsection, that person must register with the department. If after opening a season under this subsection to allow the use of monofilament mesh web, the commissioner determines there is adverse effects from monofilament mesh web is allowed. For the purposes of this subsection, "monofilament mesh web is allowed. For the purposes of this subsection, "monofilament mesh web" means any single filament mesh web. The provisions in this subsection do not apply after December 31, 2007.

ISSUE: The December 31, 2007 date needs to be removed. The current regulations contained in 5 AAC 39.250 prohibit the use of less than 30 or six equal filaments of nylon in gillnet web. Single-strand nylon gillnet webbing is about 60 percent the cost of 30 or six filament webbing. As a means of costing the economic cost of replacing gillnet webbing provide in regulations the flexibility to use single filament gillnet web if the fisherman chooses.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued high costs of replacing gillnet webbing.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Reduces cost by about 40 percent for gillnet web replacement.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, intended to be allocation neutral.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None

PROPOSED BY: Bruce Gabrys

(HQ-07F-393)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
KRSA PC27

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 103 - 5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations. Allow additional use of monofilament gillnets as follows:

I would like to see the regulations changed so that we may use all monofilament if we choose, not just one shackle.

ISSUE: Only one shackle of monofilament gillnet is permitted per boat or setnet permit in Cook Inlet. We need to be able to use all monofilament.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? I found that not only is mono cheaper to buy, but the fears about increased dropout were absolutely wrong. In fact, the opposite is true. The fish are harder to pick out, but they stay in the net much better even when it is rough seas.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. I believe that there would be even fewer dropouts and fishermen would save money on gear. Both of these results would boost profits for fishermen and add value to the industry.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All fishermen who choose to use monofilament.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who think monofilament kills marine mammals are misguided because of the problems with high-seas driftnets which were miles and miles long. In Cook Inlet, we have extremely low incidents with marine mammals and gillnets.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We could still fish with only one shackle of monofilament, but there is absolutely no reason nor to fish with three.

PROPOSED BY: Teague Vanek (HQ-07F-089)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8	Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30	KRSA PC27	Sustina Valley AC11
		Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 104 - 5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operations. Prohibit use of monofilament nets in Cook Inlet as follows:

A subsection would read that monofilament salmon web shall not be allowed in the waters of Cook Inlet.

ISSUE: Monofilament mesh web.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued use of poor unselective and wasteful fishing gear.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, less dropouts and less "girdled" or "cut" fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The resource.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those that do not want to consider detrimental effects.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions.

PROPOSED BY: South K-Beach Independent Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-07F-309)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Sustina Valley AC11
KRSA PC27

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 105 - 5 AAC 21.331(a)(c). Gillnet specifications and operations.

Increase drift gillnet to 200 fathoms in the Upper Cook Inlet as follows:

(c) A drift gillnet may not be more than 200 [150] fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth...

ISSUE: The current 150 fathoms of gillnets used by the drift fleet are inadequate to effectively harvest fish.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Economic hardship on drift fleet.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Provide the drift fleet an opportunity to harvest fish on the early and later portions of the run.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Drift fleet.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Other users, some allocation will occur.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Bob Wolfe

(HQ-07F-386)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 106 - 5 AAC 21.331 (c). Gillnet specifications and operations.

Increase maximum drift gillnet depth to 60 meshes as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(c) A drift gillnet may not be more than 150 fathoms in length and up to **60** [45] meshes in depth. No person may operate more than one drift gillnet.

ISSUE: The present regulation allows drift gillnets to be 45 meshes deep. This proposal would allow up to 60 mesh deep nets. Presently, the drift gillnet fleet consists of approximately 400 boats, which is significantly lower than the nearly 600 vessels which fished in the past. This regulation would allow increased harvest by the drift gillnet fleet to help maintain its historical harvest percentage. In addition, limitation in management plans on extra periods by the drift gillnet fleet has resulted in very low exploitation rates on chum, coho, and pink salmon. This proposal would allow these under-harvested stocks to be used. This is more closely in tune with sustained fisheries management. Present exploitation rates on chum, coho, and pink salmon by the drift gillnet fleet is less than 10 percent. In years with warmer water temperatures in Upper Cook Inlet, the salmon runs are deeper in the water column.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? A usable resource will continue to be underutilized.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, to a limited degree. A small increase in efficiency at the start and end of the season will allow more fish to be handled for quality markets. Presently, catches in the drift gillnet fleet average less than 100 fish for the first few periods. At this level of harvest fish can be individually handled and therefore bled, packed in ice, and delivered in prime condition. At the peak of the fishery this does not take place and the slight increase in efficiency should not impact negatively the overall quality of the pack.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The drift gillnet fleet will increase slightly the harvest of all species of salmon. The commercial industry will have slightly more fish for programs like Kenai Wild.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The increase in harvest by the drift gillnet fleet should be small enough that most other users will not see the impact of the harvest in their activities. However, increased harvest by one user group will make less fish available for others from a purely statistical viewpoint. At the low exploitation levels in the drift gillnet fleet is anticipated that nearly 90 percent of chum, pink and coho entering the inlet will continue to enter Cook Inlet streams.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A consideration was given to making gear longer. However, this would increase harvest significantly and would upset the historical harvest patterns in the inlet. This option was rejected for that reason.

PROPOSED BY: Bruce Gabrys

(HQ-07F-394)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

Sustina Valley AC11

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's

Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 107 - 5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations. Allow up to 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear and allow joint ventures with concurrent fishing from one vessel by permit as follows:

Add new Regulatory Section 5 AAC 21.331. Requirements and Specifications for Use of 200 Fathoms of Drift Gillnet in Cook Inlet.

- (a) **Except if the special harvest areas specified in (e) of this section, two Cook Inlet drift gillnet CFEC permit holders may concurrently fish from the same vessel and jointly operate up to 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear under this section.**
- (b) **Before operating drift gillnet gear jointly under this section, both permit holders shall register with the department.**
- (c) **When two Cook Inlet drift gillnet CFEC permit holders fish from the same vessel and jointly operate a drift gillnet gear under this section, the vessel must display its ADF&G permanent license plat number followed by the letter "D" to identify the vessel as a dual permit vessel. The letter "D" must be removed or covered when the vessel is operating with only one drift gillnet CFEC permit holder on board the vessel. The identification number and the letters must be displayed.**
 - (1) **in letters and numerals 12 inches high with lines at least one inch wide;**
 - (2) **in a color that contrasts with the background**
 - (3) **on both sides of the hull; and**
 - (4) **in a manner that is plainly visible at all times when the vessel is being operated.**
- (d) **When two permit holders jointly operate gear under this section, each permit holder is responsible for ensuring that the entire unit of gear is operated in a lawful manner.**
- (e) **The joint operation of drift gillnet gear under this not allowed in any other area, or during any time, when a single CFEC permit holder is restricted to operating less than 150 fathoms of drift gillnet gear and in the**
 - (1) **Kasilof and Kenai sections of the Central Districts;**
 - (2) **Kasilof terminal fishery described in 5 AAC 21.365 (f);**
 - (3) **Closed areas described in 5 AAC 21.350**
 - (4) **Chinitna Bay Subdistric of the Central District.**

ISSUE: The limit of 150 fathoms of drift gillnet gear on drift gillnet vessels during times of low salmon runs and low salmon prices. The difficulty of hiring qualified crew during times of low salmon returns and prices. The percent of gross revenue that is required to operate a drift gillnet vessel. The continued decline of local ownership of drift gillnet permits.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The continued difficulty of hiring qualified crew resulting in a higher chance of accidents and insurance premiums. Continued difficulty of achieving a reasonable profit from drift gillnetting in Cook Inlet.

Continued losses of local ownership and use of drift gillnet permits.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Reducing operational costs will provide profits that could be used to improve the quality of harvesting salmon. Reducing the total amount of gear and vessels used in harvesting will reduce crowding and provide harvesters the option to harvest salmon in a more quality-conscience method.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those drift gillnet fishermen who wish to remain in the fishery as an active participant and still realize a profit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Those drift gillnet fishermen who choose not to participate in the new regulation will still benefit from the reduction in gear and vessels.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Other gear and vessel reductions which would have reduced from the status quo, but preferred the option that allowed for individual choice.

PROPOSED BY: Brent M. Western

(HQ-07F-372)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 108 - 5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet Specifications and Operations. Increase aggregate set gillnet gear length as follows:

(d) **140** [105]

ISSUE: Inequitable gear allocation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Opportunity will not be the same.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set net fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions.

PROPOSED BY: South K-Beach Independent Fishermen’s Alliance (HQ-07F-310)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 109 - 5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations. Limit east side set gillnet gear to 3 strands as follows:

East side set nets shall consist of 3 strand netting or less.

ISSUE: Limit the commercial catch of July Kenai River chinook salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Commercial fishermen. East side setnetters will continue to harvest a large number, 15,000 - 20,000, July king salmon headed for the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kenai River sport fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Three strand netting will hold sockeye, but kings will break through to reach the Kenai River.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Sports fishermen have been trying for years to limit the commercial catch of July kings.

PROPOSED BY: Melvin Forsyth Jr. (HQ-07F-305)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
KRSA PC27

Central Peninsula AC8
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

Note, a board committee has identified the following proposal as a “restructuring” proposal. A restructuring proposal is one that is likely to have substantial economic, social, or biological impacts and may require significant changes to the management of a fishery. The proposed regulatory change may strive to improve the value of a fishery by providing new and increased opportunities to: 1) raise the revenue generated from harvested fish (e.g. through improved quality); or 2) lower the cost of fishing operations; or 3) improve conservation.

The board is seeking additional information on this proposal in order that it can be fully evaluated. During the October 9-11, 2007 worksession, the board will:

- a) Determine if the proposal complete;*
- b) Determine if there are outstanding questions or information needed;*
- c) Confirm that board has authority to act on proposal; identify any aspects of proposal where board may need additional authority to make decisions;*
- d) Identify whether CFEC, Dept. of Commerce, Dept. of Labor or other agencies need to be consulted on issues raised by the proposal and if so, bring staff together to schedule work and process; and*
- e) Identify proposal’s review process and schedule.*

The additional information requested in order to fully evaluate this proposal can be found in the 11 questions contained in the board’s Restructuring Proposal Form (see Page xiv). The board invites the author and the public to submit any additional information to help in the evaluation of this proposal.

PROPOSAL 110 - 5 AAC 21.330. Gear. Allow commercial use of reef net gear for harvest of live fish in Cook Inlet as follows:

Allow any Cook Inlet gillnet limited entry permit holder to substitute a reef net for of gillnet gear for live fish harvest.

ISSUE: Low percentage of high quality salmon in gillnet gear.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Inability to meet market demands for high quality salmon will cause further deterioration in the Cook Inlet set gillnet fishery, resulting in the loss of jobs, processor capacity and tax revenues.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes it would improve quality. By the use of a new design in gear (the reef net) it would allow fishermen to catch a consistent live harvest that could be bled and iced on site or held live for several days until processors could custom process for added value.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen, processors, consumers and the sport fish industry, as non-targeted stocks could be released alive.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Liz Chase

(HQ-07F-186)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 111 - AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations. Change distance offshore for set gillnets in Cook Inlet as follows:

East side set nets shall be at least 600 feet offshore from mean high tide line.

ISSUE: Escapement (lack of) of chinook salmon into the Kenai River in July.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Commercial fishermen, east side set netters will continue to harvest large numbers of king salmon headed for the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kenai River sport fishermen and women.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Commercial fishermen will receive more fishing time for sockeye salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Sports fishermen have tried unsuccessfully to limit commercial catch of July Kenai River kings.

PROPOSED BY: Melvin Forsyth Jr. (HQ-07F-306)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

KRSA PC27

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 112 - 5 AAC 21.345. Registration. Allow set gillnet fishing in any district after 48-hour waiting period as follows:

Allow Upper Cook Inlet set gill net permit holders to fish any area of the Upper Cook Inlet, from the West side, East side, to the Northern district. When transferring from area to area apply a 48 hour period of time.

ISSUE: The board should address opening entire Upper Cook Inlet to Cook Inlet set gillnet permit holders. For many years fishermen with this permit were allowed to fish the entire inlet and now fisherman have to register their permit for one area.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lack of opportunity for fisherman wanting to fish other areas which bring economic hardships for permit holders in the Cook Inlet.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it would allow fishermen with gillnetters that have refrigerated sea water or ice to go to different areas to fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen that struggle to keep the quality of their harvested fish superb and make a living off their yearly catch.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Fishermen that don't take care of their fish properly such as, refrigerating, icing and bleeding them.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Gary Deiman

(HQ-07F-088)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8

UCIDA PC30

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9

Sustina Valley AC11

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

Note, a board committee has identified the following proposal as a “restructuring” proposal. A restructuring proposal is one that is likely to have substantial economic, social, or biological impacts and may require significant changes to the management of a fishery. The proposed regulatory change may strive to improve the value of a fishery by providing new and increased opportunities to: 1) raise the revenue generated from harvested fish (e.g. through improved quality); or 2) lower the cost of fishing operations; or 3) improve conservation.

The board is seeking additional information on this proposal in order that it can be fully evaluated. During the October 9-11, 2007 worksession, the board will:

- a) Determine if the proposal complete;*
- b) Determine if there are outstanding questions or information needed;*
- c) Confirm that board has authority to act on proposal; identify any aspects of proposal where board may need additional authority to make decisions;*
- d) Identify whether CFEC, Dept. of Commerce, Dept. of Labor or other agencies need to be consulted on issues raised by the proposal and if so, bring staff together to schedule work and process; and*
- e) Identify proposal’s review process and schedule.*

The additional information requested in order to fully evaluate this proposal can be found in the 11 questions contained in the board’s Restructuring Proposal Form (see Page xiv). The board invites the author and the public to submit any additional information to help in the evaluation of this proposal.

PROPOSAL 113 - 5 AAC 21.345. Registration; and 18.xxx. New section. Eliminate area registration for vessel for Cook Inlet and Kodiak salmon fisheries as follows:

Eliminate area registration for boats, same as the herring regulations for the state.

ISSUE: Be able to fish one boat in both Cook Inlet and Kodiak in the same year. Eliminate area registration for the boat.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? With the price of fish and amount of fish, it is hard to make a living fishing one area. Kodiak is at less than 50 percent of permit holders fishing and Cook Inlet at 60 percent.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. It allows fishermen to be more selective to species and market.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who hold permits in different areas, and would like to fish both areas. Also creates a bigger pool for the processors to pick from for buying quality fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those who don’t hold multiple permits will have

more competition.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Buying two boats, income doesn't warrant it.

PROPOSED BY: Gary W. Jackinsky

(HQ-07F-097)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Gary W. Jackinsky PC1
Central Peninsula AC8

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
UCIDA PC30

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 114 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
Renumber Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan to put umbrella plan first in the regulations as follows:

Renumber 5 AAC 21.363 to 5 AAC 21.351 or 352.

ISSUE: The Upper Cook Inlet “umbrella salmon management plan” occurs in the middle of all the step down plans. As a result of the sequence in which the plans occur in regulations, many users don’t understand or encounter this umbrella plan until after reading several step down plans.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued confusion.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anyone who reads the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan will encounter this umbrella plan just after 5 AAC 21.350 “Closed waters...” and just before 5 AAC 21.353 “Central District...”

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo - continued confusion.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association (HQ-07F-403)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Central Peninsula AC8
Sustina Valley AC11
Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 115 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.

Return Upper Cook Inlet management plan to 1995 wording as follows:

Return the plan as it was in 1995 which made a clear divide by timeline for management of the various stocks. Prior to July 1, the inlet was managed primarily for recreational uses, from July 1 to August 15 the salmon stocks are managed primarily for commercial purposes and after August 15 Kenai Peninsula stocks are managed primarily for recreational purposes while those stocks in the remainder of the inlet are managed primarily for commercial purposes.

ISSUE: The current UCI management plan is useless and confuses the management of the inlet, the plan should be returned to what it said in 1995.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the public will be unsure of what the overall goals and long term direction for the UCI fisheries

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of UCI salmon stocks in a predictable and reasonable fashion. It eliminates a great deal of the language that has been confusing the department and all users for 12 years

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, making it clear what the long term management goals should benefit everyone.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-227)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 116 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan; 21.360. River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Add personal use, sport and guided sport use to the priority for management purposes in Upper Cook Inlet as follows:

Revise current allocation priorities to match current needs and values.

Amend 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan to add the following: **The department shall manage all upper Cook Inlet salmon for priority use by subsistence, personal use, sport, and guided sport uses based on abundance. Commercial fisheries shall be allocated fish surplus to the capacity of subsistence, personal use, sport, and guided sport fisheries, and spawning escapement goals.**

Amend 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai late-run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan as follows:

(a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for **subsistence, personal use, sport, and guided sport** [COMMERCIAL] uses based on abundance. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, **Northern District Sockeye, Kasilof king,** Kenai River king and Kenai River coho salmon stocks to provide personal use, sport and guided sport fisherman with **the** [A REASONABLE] opportunity to harvest salmon resources **to the full capacity of the non-commercial fisheries.**

ISSUE: Article 8, section 3 of Alaska's constitution states: "wherever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use". Because more than half of Alaska's residents live in Southcentral Alaska with many more having access to the region and its transportation system, it is more evident than ever that the salmon fishery stocks of Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) should be managed so that subsistence, sport, guided sport, and personal use fishery participants are provided unimpaired access to the common property fish resource.

Additionally, current salmon management plan execution has resulted in the failure to provide sustainable biological escapements in some natal streams which is contrary to the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy (5 AAC 39.222) as well as the best interest of the resource and all user groups. The non-consumptive fishers (commercial fishing) of UCI harvest less than 5% of Alaska's commercially harvest salmon. The commercial fisheries' economic value to the State and the region pales in comparison to the value generated by the sport, guided sport, subsistence, and personal use fisheries. These fisheries also are a major driver in the visitor industry.

UCI commercial fishers currently take a large majority of the harvestable surplus of upper Cook Inlet salmon, largely for export from Alaska, at the expense of Alaska residents. Opportunities to obtain fish for personal and family consumption have been negatively impacted by the current management regime. There has also been a negative impact to the economy of the region of the Board of Fisheries (AS 16.05.251).

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Consumptive users of these common property resources will continue to not have reasonable opportunity to harvest UCI salmon stocks. Some natal streams will continue to consistently fall below escapement goals at a cost of future yield and fishery value. Optimum economic value of the existing fishery resources will not be realized. Salmon fisheries in Cook Inlet, are not static - they have a long history of evolution since before statehood in response to changing markets, values, user needs, biological factors, and management. As demands have changes, fisheries and fishery allocations have been adjusted. For instance, the Central District setnet fishery has expanded over the past couple of decades and replaced the drift net fishery as the largest harvester of UCI salmon. Many Northern District setnet permits have relocated to the east side of the Central District. Chum salmon runs have declined, Kenai and Kasilof sockeye runs have increased, and commercial harvest emphasis has changed as the mixed stock fisheries have changed.

Current commercial fishery management in the Central District of the UCI is a holdover from an earlier era and is not in step with current demands and economic values. Worldwide market values of wild salmon have declined with the rise in farmed salmon. At the same time, demand and economic value of personal use and sport-caught salmon have exploded in South Central Alaska. Economic value of a sport-caught fish now far exceeds the value of the same fish caught in a commercial net. The upper Cook Inlet area supports over two-thirds of the State's population and consumptive harvest effort. The Kenai Peninsula and UCI is the only road-accessible area with a sockeye run large enough to meet the consumptive needs of the majority of the Alaskan population. It is also by first the most readily accessible and heavily-utilized area for visitors to the state.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Reduced volume of commercial harvest will place a premium on quality rather than quantity of fish delivered to the commercial market. A significant portion of the commercial harvest is currently delivered at suboptimal quality. Accordingly, the UCI commercial fishers receive a lower price than others do for higher quality fish. Fishers will be encouraged to deliver a higher quality product. The proximity of the UCI commercial fisheries to population and transportation centers provides untapped opportunities to access a quality-based market. Improvements in fish quality will secure a premium price and can partially offset the efforts of reduced fishery volume.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Personal use, subsistence, and sport fishery users will benefit with the increased opportunity to harvest the available fish. Local and regional economies will benefit from the much higher values on the fish in noncommercial fisheries. Central District commercial fisheries will benefit by installing higher quality fishing practices that will result in higher prices. Northern district commercial, sport and personal use fisheries will benefit from restoration of sustainable levels of fish retaining to that area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? This proposal will reduce the opportunities of the central district drift and set net commercial fisheries. However, the reduced value of the commercial catch will be more than offset by the much greater economic value of the fish

in the consumptive fisheries.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? An incremental one to five year implementation of this charge was considered to provide for an orderly transition in the fisheries. This alternative was rejected because of the long term consequences of continued failure to meet escapement goal of all stocks and the impact of the foregone economic value when fish are harvested by commercial rather than the more valuable consumptive fisher.

PROPOSED BY: Cook Inlet Sportfishing Caucus

(HQ-07F-419)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 117 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
Amend umbrella salmon management plan to clarify escapement goals based on wild fish as follows:

Amend the umbrella Salmon Management Plan to direct that escapement goals be met based solely with wild fish.

ISSUE: Counting hatchery fish toward wild escapement goals is inaccurate, biologically inappropriate, and contrary to the Sustainable Fisheries Policy (5 AAC 39.222 (c) (1) (D)). Hatchery fish are currently counted toward achieving escapement goals for wild fish in a number of upper Cook Inlet systems (Fish Creek sockeye, Kenai River sockeye, and Kasilof River sockeye). However, escapement goals are based on wild spawner numbers and hatchery fish often do not make effective contributions toward natural production. Counting hatchery fish masks the actual status of the wild stock and makes it appear that wild spawning goals are being met, when in fact they are not. Hatchery fish can also make it appear that escapement goals are being exceeded when they are not.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Habitat protection and restoration efforts are often ineffective when hatchery fish obscure the status of the wild population (e.g. Fish Creek sockeye). Future production and yield is reduced where hatchery fish are not effective natural spawners and natural spawning escapement goals are not reached (e.g. Hidden Lake sockeye in the Kenai). Intensive fisheries for enhanced runs in large run years results in overfishing of the wild stock (e.g. Kasilof sockeye).

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users and the management systems will benefit from sustainable wild salmon populations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one will suffer from accurate assessments on wild salmon status.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because current practice risks wild salmon sustainability and is contrary to management policy. Closure of affected hatcheries was rejected because hatchery fish can provide significant fishery benefits where managed to ensure protection of the wild fish.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-162)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

Sustina Valley AC11

Alaska Outdoor Council PC28

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 118 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Return to 1996 Kenai River sockeye plan as follows:

Return to 1996 Kenai River sockeye plan.

ISSUE: Putting 1.5 million sockeye in the Kenai River is foolish.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued waste.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? A uniform harvest while in saltwater means better fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users benefit by abundance.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Stop managing for in-river allocations.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs

(HQ-07F-034)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Central Peninsula AC8

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Anchorage AC9

Sustina Valley AC11

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 119 - 5 AAC 39.222. Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries; 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Identify Susitna River and Fish Creek as stocks with a yield concern under the Sustainable Salmon Policy and create conservation corridor as follows:

The Susitna River and Fish Creek should be placed on the status of yield concern under the Sustainable Salmon Management Policy. Due to missed escapement goals, there is not a salmon management plan that will protect Northern District salmon stocks as they transit the central district. The board should adopted a new regulation that establishes a conservation corridor in the center half or the central district from 8 July thru 26 July to protect northern bound stocks and that restricted drift fleet to the pre 2005 fishing areas.

ISSUE: Sockeye salmon escapement goals in the Northern District have been missed on a regular base, and consumptive users have not been able to fish for sockeye salmon for the past two years in the Susitna River drainage and there has not been a personal use fishery in over 10 years. Northern District commercial fishermen have been restricted repeatedly in an attempt to make escape goals with little success. The current preseason forecast for the Yentna River and Fish Creek are so low that they won't make their escapement goals again this year. If fishing following the traditional patterns.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The sockeye salmon runs in these streams may be seriously damaged, there are a many problems related to over harvest, miss management of hatchery stocks and salmon management plans that are aim at insuring the majority of the harvest is done in the central district by the drift fleet. The attitude of many in the department that believed the native sockeye salmon run in Fish Creek has been killed out by the hatchery program.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will provide sufficient sockeye salmon to meet escapement goals and return the health of run back to historical high levels.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All sockeye salmon returning to the Northern District not just the two within escapement goals. The wild life, resident species this home waters and the water it self and the young salmon living in the stream. After the streams have been returned to a recovered status everyone will be better off.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Initially anyone depending on sockeye salmon will be required to give up their access to these stocks, but as they recover access can granted.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Stop all commercial fishing when these stocks are transiting their area.

PROPOSED BY: Bruce Knowles

(HQ-07F-136)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 120 - 5 AAC 39.222. Policy for the management of sustainable salmon fisheries. Designate Cook Inlet chum salmon as a Stock of Concern as follows:

Consider designation of Cook Inlet chum salmon as a Stock of Concern which warrants development of an action plan to evaluate status, assess factors in decline, and identify appropriate remedies.

ISSUE: Chum salmon numbers in upper Cook Inlet have plummeted over the last two decades and the reason is unclear. Chum historically supported very large commercial harvests but fisheries have evaporated over the years. Declines in chum numbers may have broader ecosystem implications, for instance, to the sensitive Cook Inlet beluga population. Significant investigation for action regarding chum salmon appears to have been precluded by failure to define meaningful conservation concern criteria and a lack of representative chum escapement data. Failure to act in the face of uncertainty is contrary the precautionary approach of the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Upper Cook Inlet chum salmon stocks will continue to be at significant conservation risk, provide no meaningful fishery benefits, and affect other species of concern.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not Applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Recovery of chum would provide fishery and ecosystem benefits.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because lack of a clear cause of the decline or a fishery- related remedy does not eliminate the conservation concern.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-160)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Matanuska Valley AC2 | Kenai/Soldotna AC7 | Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9 |
| Mt. Yenlo AC6 | | Central Peninsula AC8 |
| Anchorage AC9 | | UCIDA PC30 |
| Sustina Valley AC11 | | Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45 |
| Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41 | | |
| Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52 | | |
| KRSA PC27 | | |

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 121 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.
Modify Yentna/Susitna escapement goals as follows:

Amend section (b) of the Northern District Salmon Management Plan as follows: **To provide for inriver uses of Yentna/Susitna River sockeye salmon the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 105,000 - 195,000 sockeye salmon past the Yentna River sonar counter. Achievement of the lower end of the inriver goal will take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River or Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement goals.** [ACHIEVEMENT OF THE LOWER END OF THE YENTNA RIVER OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL SHALL TAKE PRIORITY OVER NOT EXCEEDING THE UPPER END OF THE KENAI RIVER ESCAPEMENT GOAL. WHEN THE SOCKEYE SALMON RETURNS TO THE KENAI RIVER ARE FOUR MILLION OR GREATER, THE OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL IS 75,000 TO 180,000.]

ISSUE: With interpretation of the present Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan ADF&G managers have been managing Yentna/Susitna River sockeye salmon, by at times, allowing zero harvest of sockeye salmon by inriver sport fishermen, while simultaneously allowing regular fishing periods and also granting emergency order extra fishing time to commercial fishermen in the Central District of Upper Cook Inlet - where the largest harvest of Yentna/Susitna bound sockeye likely occurs. During 2005 such management practices resulted in the lowest recorded Yentna River sockeye salmon sonar escapement on record.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If something is not done to adjust the harvest pattern on Yentna/Susitna bound sockeye salmon, inriver sport fishermen will likely see more frequent and longer sockeye closures, even though this fishery harvests a small percentage of the total Yentna/Susitna sockeye. These closures will likely be accelerated if low sockeye numbers return from years of less than adequate parent spawning escapements, as would seem logical. Subsistence users along the Yentna River will likely experience continued difficulties catching subsistence salmon, and subsistence salmon that are harvested will continue to reduce needed sockeye numbers from escapement. Upper Cook Inlet commercial fishermen could see lower sockeye prices if the compounding escapement woes of Yentna / Susitna sockeye trigger an “unsustainable” management label for Upper Cook Inlet sockeye salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Yentna/Susitna inriver users (including subsistence users) would enjoy a higher likelihood of a consistent and predictable sockeye salmon fishery and harvest opportunity. All users could benefit from additional future abundance, if a reasonable number of sockeye were allocated to inriver uses, so that inriver harvests would not harvest from low escapements. Providing each user group a reasonable opportunity to participate in Yentna / Susitna sockeye harvests on an annual basis seems like a fairer way to manage the Upper Cook Inlet salmon fishery, and such

opportunity may only be provided with adequate inriver sockeye returns. Such an approach would seem to more closely fit the approach outlined in 5 AAC 39.220 Policy for the Management of Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries, section (b).

In the absence of a regulatory management plan that otherwise allocates or restricts harvest, and when it is necessary to restrict fisheries on stocks where there are known conservation problems, the burden of conservation shall be shared among all fisheries in close proportion to their respective harvest on the stock of concern. The board recognized that precise sharing of conservation among fisheries is dependent on the amount of stock specific information available.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Central District drift gillnetters who saw management plan changes granting them significant expanded fishing opportunities during the last Upper Cook Inlet Board of Fisheries meeting would likely see the largest reduction in their harvest of Yentna / Susitna bound sockeye salmon. The new ADF&G genetic harvest allocation study should be examined closely, however, to identify ways to reduce harvests of Yentna / Susitna bound sockeye salmon while secondarily maintaining opportunity to harvest more abundant sockeye stocks.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? It is easy to look at yearly inriver Yentna River sockeye harvests and think a lesser number of sockeye salmon could be made available to inriver uses, however, we would request the Board consider that ADF&G originally monitored the Susitna wide sockeye escapement below the confluence of the Yentna River, and that ADF&G uses the current goal as it's only commercial management goal for the entire Susitna River Drainage.

Thus when figuring an appropriate allocation for inriver uses the Board should consider ADF&G figures the Yentna portion is approximately half of the entire Susitna sockeye return. In addition, higher inriver harvest of sockeye occurs on the more accessible Susitna stem. To manage the system on a conservative basis, it is more appropriate to place in regulation an inriver sockeye allocation based on the Susitna stem with it's higher inriver sockeye harvest, as doing otherwise subjects the system to overharvest. After examining the past 10 years of inriver sockeye harvests, and remembering these harvests have been closed at different times during the past several years, a minimum inriver goal of 105,000 sockeye past the Yentna River sonar seems an appropriate and conservative number. It may also be appropriate to consider higher minimum numbers.

PROPOSED BY: Andy Couch

(HQ-07F-123)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

KRSA PC27

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 122 - 5 AAC 21.358(b). Northern District Salmon Management. Modify Yentna River escapement goal as follows:

To provide for inriver uses of Yentna/Susitna River sockeye salmon the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 105,000 – 195,000 sockeye salmon past the Yentna River sonar counter. Achievement of the lower end of the inriver goal will take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River or Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement goals. [ACHIEVEMENT OF THE LOWER END OF THE YENTNA RIVER OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL SHALL TAKE PRIORITY OVER NOT EXCEEDING THE UPPER END OF THE KENAI RIVER ESCAPEMENT GOAL. WHEN THE SOCKEYE SALMON RETURNS TO THE KENAI RIVER ARE FOUR MILLION OR GREATER, THE OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL IS 75,000 TO 180,000.]

ISSUE: With interpretation of the present Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan ADF&G managers have been managing Yentna/Susitna River sockeye salmon, by at times, allowing zero harvest of sockeye salmon by in-river sport fishermen, while simultaneously allowing regular fishing periods and also granting emergency order extra fishing time to commercial fishermen in the Central District of Upper Cook Inlet - where the largest harvest of Yentna/Susitna bound sockeye likely occurs. During 2005 such management practices resulted in the lowest recorded Yentna River sockeye salmon sonar escapement on record.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If something is not done to adjust the harvest pattern of Yentna/Susitna bound sockeye salmon, in-river sport fishermen will likely see more frequent and longer sockeye closures, even though this fishery harvests a small percentage of the total Yentna/Susitna sockeye. These closures will likely be accelerated if low sockeye numbers return from years of less than adequate parent spawning escapements as would seem logical. Subsistence users along the Yentna River will likely experience continued difficulties catching subsistence salmon, and subsistence salmon that are harvested will continue to reduce needed sockeye numbers from escapement. Upper Cook Inlet commercial fishermen could see lower sockeye prices if the compounding escapement woes of Yentna/Susitna sockeye trigger an “unsustainable” management label for Upper Cook Inlet sockeye salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Yentna/Susitna in-river users (including subsistence users) would enjoy a higher likelihood of a consistent and predictable sockeye salmon fishery and harvest opportunity. All users could benefit from additional future abundance, if a reasonable number of sockeye were allocated to in-river uses, so that in-river harvests would not harvest from low escapements. Providing each user group a reasonable opportunity to participate in Yentna/Susitna sockeye harvests on an annual basis is a fairer way to manage the Upper Cook Inlet salmon fishery, and such opportunity may only be provided with adequate in-river sockeye returns. Such an

approach would more closely fit the approach outlined in 5 AAC 39.220 Policy for the Management of Mixed Stock Salmon Fisheries, section (b):

In the absence of a regulatory management plan that otherwise allocates or restricts harvest, and when it is necessary to restrict fisheries on stocks where there are known conservation problems, the burden of conservation shall be shared among all fisheries in close proportion to their respective harvest on the stock of concern. The board recognized that precise sharing of conservation among fisheries is dependent on the amount of stock specific information available.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Central District drift gillnetters who saw management plan changes during the last Upper Cook Inlet Board of Fisheries meeting that granted them significantly expanded fishing opportunities would likely see the largest reduction in their harvest of Yentna/Susitna bound sockeye salmon. The new ADF&G genetic harvest allocation study should be examined closely, however, to identify ways to reduce harvests of Yentna/Susitna bound sockeye salmon while secondarily maintaining opportunity to harvest more abundant sockeye stocks.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? It is easy to look at yearly in-river Yentna River sockeye harvests and think a lesser number of sockeye salmon could be made available to in-river uses, however, we would request the Board consider that ADF&G originally monitored the Susitna wide sockeye escapement below the confluence of the Yentna River, and that ADF&G uses the current goal as it's only commercial management goal for the entire Susinta River Drainage.

Thus when figuring an appropriate allocation for in-river uses the Board should consider ADF&G figures the Yentna portion is approximately half of the entire Susitna sockeye return. In addition, higher in-river harvest of sockeye occurs on the more accessible Susitna stem. To manage the system on a conservative basis, it is more appropriate to place in regulation an in-river sockeye allocation based on the Susitna stem with it's higher in-river sockeye harvest, as doing otherwise subjects the system to overharvest. After examining the past 10 years of in-river sockeye harvests, and remembering these harvests have been closed at different times during the past several years, a minimum in-river goal of 105,000 sockeye past the Yentna River sonar seems an appropriate and conservative number. It may also be appropriate to consider higher minimum numbers.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-361)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC2
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Sustina Valley AC11

- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Central Peninsula AC8
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 123 - 5 AAC 21.xxx. New section. Eliminate Fish Creek stocking program until escapement goal met as follows:

Stop the stocking program in Fish Creek until the escapement goals is being meet on a regular bases a minimum of two life cycles.

ISSUE: Hatchery stocks are interfering with the natural reproduction of sockeye salmon on Fish Creek. Fish Creek has repeated missed its escapement goals. It has only been until the last five years that hatchery stock were marked so that they could be properly identified. Alaska Department of Fish and Game continues to use both hatchery stocks to count towards escapement goals, when only wild stocks are suppose to be.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? False returns will continue to be reported on Fish Creek and the health of the stock will not ever be known for sure. For years wild stocks were not allowed to migrate up stream in their normal patters do to a weir that was used to block their path until the hatchery stocks were mature and ready for processing.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The wild stocks of Fish Creek and the resident species that depend on the dead sockeye salmon, their eggs and their off spring as a food source.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Initially hatchery workers and some commercial fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? When it comes to saving an unique species of sockeye salmon major steps must be taken. This is just one of many that have been taken on Fish Creek.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-362)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC2
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Sustina Valley AC11
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
- KRSA PC27

- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Central Peninsula AC8
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 124 - 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 56.070. Kenai River and Kasilof River Early-run King Salmon Conservation Management Plan; 5 AAC 56.080. Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Reorganize the Upper Cook Inlet Management plans by species as follows:

The intent of this proposal is to reorganize the Administrative Code sections listed above into a format of an overall plan that provides information and regulation common to all fisheries, and additional plans that deal with the fisheries by species. The proposed language is not provided here because of its length, but will be provided during the fall comment period for inclusion in the BOF record.

ISSUE: Cook Inlet Fishery Management Plans are very complicated and because of the extended time period over which they were developed and differences in focus with each plan, contain regulations that impact individual or groups of fisheries in more than one plan. The public, agencies, and BOF periodically debate fishery decisions because of perceived differences intent or regulation in different plans. Some of this confusion results from the organization of the plan. This proposal is an attempt to reorganize the plans by species under an umbrella plan so that all current regulations for harvest of that species are in one location. This is viewed as a reorganization of the material in the current plans to make the previous plans easier to use.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will continue to be confusion over the intent and prosecution of management plans.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All individuals and groups that develop and implement the management plans.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? NA.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-332)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 125 - 5 AAC 21.320(b)(1). Weekly fishing periods; 5 AAC 21.331. Gillnet specifications and operations; 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan. 5 AAC 21.360(b)(1),(c). Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan; 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 77.525. Personal use salmon fishery. Revise the Upper Cook Inlet area management plans to address quality, sustainability and revitalize the industry as follows:

i) Insert in the 5 AAC 21.363 UCI Management Plan the following statement: **(7) It is the intent of the Board of Fish that achieving the BEG and the in-river escapement goals for a salmon species take precedent over any other restrictions in these regulations on fishing time or area. It is further recognized by the Board of Fish that the Commissioner of ADF&G should exercise his emergency order authority to alter time and area restrictions in-season to meet these escapement goals.**]

ii) Amend 5 AAC 21.360 to read as follows.

(a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO, LATE-RUN KENAI RIVER KING, AND KENAI RIVER COHO SALMON STOCKS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PERSONAL USE, SPORT AND GUIDED FISHERMEN WITH A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON RESOURCES.]

(b)(1) meet a **spawning** [OPTIMUM] escapement goal [(OEG)] range of **400,000 - 700,000** [500,000-1,000,000] late-run sockeye salmon.

(b)(3) distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly within the **spawning escapement goal** [(OEG)] range, in proportion to the size of the run.

(c) Based on **preseason and in-season forecasts prior to July 25 the fishing season,** the run will be managed as follows:

(1) at run strengths of less than 3,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) The department shall manage for an in-river goal range of 450,000 - 750,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) The sport fishery below the sonar counter will be allocated 50,000 - 75,000 sockeye salmon; and

(C) The sport fishery above the sonar counter will be allocated 50,000 - 75,000 sockeye salmon and;

(D) The personal use dip net fishery will be allowed to harvest one half the salmon per member of household limit in addition to the normal household bag and possession limit; and

(2) at run strengths greater than 3,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) The department shall manage for an in-river goal range of

475,000 - 800,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) The sport fishery below the sonar counter will be allocated 75,000 - 100,000 sockeye salmon; and

(C) The sport fishery above the sonar counter will be allocated 75,000 - 100,000 sockeye salmon and;

(D) The personal use dip net fishery will be allowed to harvest the full per head of household bag and possession limit.

iii) Modify section 5 AAC 21.320 (b)(1) to read “salmon may be taken in the Central District from 7:00 a.m. Monday until 7:00 p.m. Monday, from 7:00 a.m. Wednesday until 7:00 p.m. Wednesday with “D” permit, and from 7:00a.m. Friday, until 7:00 p.m. Friday except salmon may be taken....”

iv) Repeal 5 AAC 21.365 (b) of the Kasilof Salmon Management Plan.

v) Add new regulatory section in 5 AAC 21.331

Requirements and specifications for use of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet in Cook Inlet.

(a) Except if the special harvest areas specified in (e) of this section, two Cook Inlet drift gillnet CFEC permit holders or one permit holder with 2 permits may concurrently fish from the same vessel and jointly or separately with 2 permits operate up to 200 fathoms or drift gillnet gear under this section.

(b) Before operating drift gillnet gear jointly under this section, both permit holders shall register with the department.

(c) When two Cook Inlet drift gillnet CFEC permit holders or a permit holder with 2 permits fish from the same vessel and jointly or collectively operate a drift gillnet gear under this section, the vessel must display its ADF&G permanent license plate number followed by the letter “D” to identify the vessel as a dual permit vessel. The letter “D” must be removed or covered when the vessel is operating with a permit holder with only one drift gillnet CFEC permit on board the vessel. The identification number and letters must be displayed

(1) in letters and numerals 12 inches high with lines at least one inch wide;

(2) in a color that contrasts with the background;

(3) on both sides of the hull and top deck (as to be visual from the air); and

(4) in a manner that is plainly visible at all times when the vessel is being operated.

(d) When two permit holders jointly operate gear under this section, each permit holder is responsible for ensuring that the entire unit of gear is operated in a lawful manner.

(e) The joint operation of drift gillnet gear under this not allowed in any other area, or during any time when, a single CFEC permit holder is restricted to operating less than 150 fathoms or drift gillnet gear and in the

(1) Kasilof and Kenai sections of the Central District

(2) Kasilof terminal fishery described in 5 AAC 21.365 (f);

- (3) Closed areas described in 5 AAC 21.350;**
- (4) Chinitna Bay Subdistrict of the Central District.**

vi) Amend this regulation as follows:

(c) A drift gillnet may not be more than 150 fathoms in length and up to **60** [45] meshes in depth. No person may operate more than one drift gillnet.

vii) Amend 5 AAC 21.358(b) as follows:

(b) Meet a spawning escapement goal [sustainable] escapement [(SEG)] range of **40,000 - 80,000** sockeye salmon.

viii) Amend 5 AAC 77.525 Personal use salmon fishery, the personal-use dip net regulation to begin with 15 salmon per head of household and 5 per dependent limit on runs less than 3 million to the Kenai and 25 head of household and 10 per dependant on runs greater than 3 million to the Kenai. Or for runs less than 3 million to the Kenai manage to 30 fish per household of two or 15 fish per households of 1 as currently the Copper River is regulated. With EO authority for date extension or closure of the dip net fishery to manage to escapement goals. For sanitation purposes, only viscera are to be placed in the river, no filleted carcasses.

ISSUE: Salmon management plans in the Upper Cook Inlet.

Overview: The three goals that are too be addressed by this proposal are as follows: industry revitalization, improved quality, and stable supply of fish. In order to revitalize the commercial salmon fishery, to provide for a stable and predictable fishery based on principles and to promote higher quality seafood products, the regulatory changes contained in this proposal need to be made by the Board of Fisheries. Currently, there are many contradicting and confusing regulations. There are new markets that are responding very positively to the higher quality salmon products coming from Cook Inlet. The local infrastructure makes Cook Inlet very competitive in a quality, oriented market. This proposal is based on maximum sustained yield/abundance based escapement goals taking highest priority and considers overcapitalization and latent capacity of the drift fleet in conjunction with run strength. This coordinated and comprehensive proposal will also restore the historic harvests as directed by 5 AAC 21.363(a)(5). This proposal contains several elements that will bring a coordinated revitalization to the industry. Therefore the above referenced regulations need to be amended in a collective manner.

First: 5 AAC 21.363 UCI Management Plan, the conflicts in the current management plan must be clarified concerning area and time limitations or restrictions that conflict with achieving escapement goals. Most of the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plans have performed poorly and need revision.

Second: revise the present weekly fishing periods consisting of two 12-hour periods. This portion of the proposal will revise the fishing periods in the drift gillnet fishery and increase the number of weekly fishing periods to 3 as follows: three periods would be on

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Only those “D” (Dual Permit) operations fishing 2 permits would be permitted to fish the Wednesday period. Other single-permit holders or operations would continue to have two regularly scheduled 12-hour periods per week. This will prevent disenfranchisement of any permit holders who don’t want to have a “D”-type operation. If all UCI drift permit holders were to decide to pursue a “D” operation, this proposal would reduce the fishing capacity per week by 25%, but create a higher quality product and more consistent supply. In the event that only one regular scheduled period is to occur in a particular week on either a Monday or Friday, the “D” permit operation would still have one regular 12-hour period. To offset the 25% reduction in harvest capacity with the “D” permit in strong salmon return years (greater than 2 million late-run Kenai sockeye) – a “D” permit operation will be allowed to use 200 fathoms and 60-mesh gear. This proposal does not reduce the number of permits, but maintains the unique individuality of each permit and takes constructive steps in rationalization of the overcapitalized fishery. The number of permits would remain the same, but this proposal would allow more flexibility and foster economic stability/growth via improved quality, vertical integration, and better utilization of capital. The reason reasons for this element of the proposal is to increase the quality of the product harvested in Cook Inlet by the drift gillnet fleet and re-establish the historical harvest patterns and percentage by the drift gillnet fleet. Presently, fishing Monday and Thursdays with restrictions on time and area the fishery is forced to be a peak fishery. With a concentrated peak harvest regulated fishery it is not difficult to ice and bleed fish for quality. Processors must hold fish for longer times before processing which results in loss of quality. This part of the proposal is intended to allow a more even harvest and improve quality. Limitations on fishing areas and times in existing management plans do not recognize this economic loss. This proposal should help restore the historic fishing patterns and balance of harvest between all users in the inlet.

Third: there needs to be revisions to the sockeye escapement descriptions for the Kenai River. A two-tiered escapement goal is proposed at above and below 3 million sockeye, and an in-river goal that includes an allocation for sport fishermen above the sonar counter at river mile 19. Creating only two tiers this will facilitate better management of Kenai River Sockeye Salmon.

Fourth: requiring the attainment of the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal to take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal of 150,000 to 300,000 places a cumbersome and unnecessary complication on fishery managers in Upper Cook Inlet. Why sacrifice harvests to achieving the Kenai goals? This is not a real problem. This is a solution looking for a problem that does not exist. Let the area management biologist manage for the escapement goals in both rivers.

Fifth: the limit of 150 fathoms of drift gillnet gear on drift gillnet vessels during times of low salmon prices. The difficulty of hiring qualified crew during times of low salmon returns and prices. The percent of gross revenue that is required to operate a drift gillnet vessel. The continued decline of local ownership of drift gillnets permits. In short, a more economically stable fishery with higher quality.

Sixth: the present regulation allows drift gillnets to be 45 meshes deep. This proposal would allow up to 60 mesh deep nets. This regulation would allow increased harvest by the drift gillnet fleet to help maintain its historical harvest percentage. In years with warmer water temperatures in Upper Cook Inlet, salmon run deeper in the water column and the increase to 60 mesh would provide a means to maintaining the historical drift fleet catch. In addition, limitation in management plans on extra periods by the drift gillnet fleet has resulted in very low exploitation rates on chum, coho, and pink salmon. This proposal would allow these under-harvested socks to be used. This is more closely in tune with sustained fisheries management. Present exploitation rates on chum, coho, and pink salmon by the drift gillnet fleet is less than 10 percent.

Seventh: the present escapement goal for the Yentna does not correspond to the rearing capacity of the system. The escapement goal needs to reflect natural characteristics (beavers, pike, zooplankton, water temperature, oxygen, development and in-river use impacts, etc....) of the system.

Eighth: the present regulation does not regulate all users based on run strength. This proposal would manage all users to escapement goals based on preseason forecasted run strength and adjusted if needed in season.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The public will continue to have different expectations concerning the management actions to be taken by ADF&G staff which are in conflict in these plans and increased public dissatisfaction by the public with ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries.

The commercial fishing community is struggling to survive, however; without these regulatory changes conflict, economic hardships, political unrest, lost economic benefits will continue to occur.

The wrong management actions will be applied because the returns have not been in the tier as forecasted.

The quality of product in Cook Inlet will not improve and the drift gill net fleet will continue to suffer loss market share as a result of economic limitation.

The continued difficulty of hiring qualified crew resulting in a higher chance of accidents and insurance premiums. Continued difficulty of achieving a reasonable profit from drift gillnetting in Cook Inlet. Continued losses of local ownership and use of drift gillnet permits.

A usable resource will continue to be underutilized.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Many of these regulation changes are directed at improving quality. The increased flexibility of ADF&G to meet escapement goals should

increase quality by removing artificial and unnecessary limitation on fishing areas and times that creates a concentrated fishery.

Additionally, the drift net fleet typical harvest between 500 and 1,200 fish on average per vessel during the peak period. This proposal is intended to lower the per vessel harvest by increasing the number of fishing periods per week. Both during the peak of the fishery and adjacent to the peak the number of fish per vessel should be reduced to allow better quality control of the product. In addition, this regulation will provide an economic incentive for fisherman to modify their vessels to increase quality of the harvest. The increased financial reward from high quality product and the reestablishment of the historical harvest patterns and percentage will be a sufficient incentive for the existing fisherman to expend the funds and time to make the vessel conversions that are necessary to improve quality of fish harvested.

In lieu of late-season, less-efficient terminal sockeye fisheries - this proposal would allow the drift fleet to harvest surpluses of sockeye when sockeye are at their highest quality during mid season.

Lastly, allowing the drift fleet to fish historical periods outside the Kenai and Kasilof sections provides product to the processors that is higher quality than fish captured latter in the season when they move toward their rivers of origin. It also allows for an orderly harvest of product during large return years of sockeye salmon. The present regulation requires that the harvest of surplus sockeye salmon during extra periods take place in the Kenai and Kasilof sections only, including the Kasilof Terminal Harvest Area. This results in fish harvest of a low quality and increases poor public relation perceptions/feelings with other user groups. In large return years the volume of harvests during the peak periods increases, as fish tend to hold in the district and enter the near shore areas in large numbers. These various elements of the revitalization and the quality improvement require regulatory changes that can be accomplished while remaining within the historical catches of the drift fleet.

Yes. Reducing operational costs will provide profits that could be used to improve the quality of harvesting salmon. Reducing the total amount of gear an vessels used in harvesting will reduce crowding and provide harvesters the option to harvest salmon in a more quality-conscience method.

A small increase in efficiency at the start and end of the season will allow more fish to be handled for quality markets. Presently, catches in the drift gillnet fleet average less than 100 fish for the first few periods. At this level of harvest fish can be individually handled and therefore bled, packed in ice, and delivered in a prime condition. At the peak of the fishery this does not take place and the slight increase in efficiency should not impact negatively the overall quality of the pack.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit with this regulation since it will be clear that the Board of Fish intents to manage the resource for in-river escapement goals.

Concerning the three fishing periods and gear adjustments for “D” permit owners, the industry and the drift gillnet fleet is the obvious benefactor of this proposal. The industry benefits by having higher quality product and the drift gillnet fleet benefits from both quality, historic harvest patterns, reduced operating costs and more efficient use of capital.

The commercial fishing industry will benefit as well as the drift gillnet fleet. Those drift gillnet fishermen who wish to remain in the fishery as an active participant and still realize a profit. The drift gillnet fleet will increase slightly the harvest of harvestable surpluses of all salmon species. The commercial industry will have slightly more fish for programs like Kenai Wild.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one should suffer. These regulatory changes do not alter the allocation of the resource between users and the escapement goals. The entry of salmon into the system is already controlled by ADF&G managers to achieve biological objectives relative to harvesting equally over the entire run.

The reestablishment of the historical harvest patterns and percentage should not hurt other commercial users when viewed in the long term. However, relative to recent trends in the last 3-10 years, commercial set gill net permit holders may be impacted negatively. Relative to other users the impact should be minimal since management plans and allocations were based on the drift fleet having nearly 600 fishing boats with 150-fathoms, 45-mesh gear. The total fishing harvest capacity of fishing three 12-hour periods with half the permits will be at or below the harvest capacity of the existing regulations at 600 drift boats fishing two 12-hour periods. It is the intent of this proposal to maintain the long term historic harvest patterns and not be a reallocation. If this becomes an issue then adjustments to fishing time should take place.

These proposals do nothing to the Department’s emergency order authority to modify fishing times or areas.

The escapement objectives for all systems are maintained so there should be no impact on in-river users. There will be a lost harvest to set gill net fishermen who target Kenai and Kasilof sockeye stocks. However, this should not result in an upsetting of the historical harvest pattern. Other salmon stocks have not entered Cook Inlet in large numbers during this time frame so harvest of coho salmon should remain low.

No one. Those drift gillnet fishermen who choose not to participate in the new regulation will still benefit from the reduction in gear and vessels. At any time through the season and with proper registration or notification to ADF&G, a permit holder may decide to either fish independently or as a “D” operation.

The increase in harvest by the drift gillnet fleet to historical levels should be small enough that most other users will not see the impact of the harvest in their activities. However, increased harvest by one user group will make less fish available for others

from a purely statistical viewpoint. At the low exploitation levels in the drift gillnet fleet it is anticipated that nearly 90 percent of chum, pink and coho entering the inlet will continue to enter Cook Inlet streams.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Concerning managing for escapement goals there are no other alternatives. If limitations on time and area are left in place the conflict over which takes priority escapement goals or time and area restrictions will continue.

The Central District is about 1,800 square miles in size making the location of salmon difficult. Additionally Upper Cook Inlet has some of the largest tides in the world. These tides and associated tidal rips thoroughly mix the salmon on a daily basis. The fishing periods must be long enough to locate salmon in the 1,800 square mile area during both flood and ebb tides.

By decreasing the options used by the department that could be put into regulations, however, this would defeat the purpose of allowing flexibility. For example, the fishery could be allowed to fish regular periods with a restriction on the fishery to the area below Kalgin Island. This would accomplish the goal of lowering the exploitation rate but would not be needed in all years. Any regulation that does not allow for flexibility based on abundance of the stocks was rejected.

Other gear and vessel reductions, which would have reduced from the status quo, but preferred the option that allowed for individual choice.

Alternating regular periods every other day to accommodate an A and B fleet to maintain current allocation of 2 regular periods per week between an A and B fleet (4 periods every 8 days), and so forth through the season based on run strength seemed cumbersome.

PROPOSED BY: Brent M. Western

(HQ-07F-373)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Matanuska Valley AC2

Chris Kempf PC8

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's

Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 126 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan to clarify board intent regarding the commissioner’s emergency order authority as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.363 (e)

(e) It is the intent of the board that, while in most circumstances the department will adhere to the management plans in this chapter, nothing in the management plans is intended to override the commissioner’s emergency order authority under AS 16.05.060. [SHOULD SIGNIFICANT NEW INFORMATION ARISE THAT, IN THE COMMISSIONER’S JUDGMENT, WARRANT DEPARTURE FROM THE PROVISIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT PLAN.]

ISSUE: Eliminate the conflict, confusion and mixed individual interpretations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued confusion and mixed interpretations as to what new information is. The results have been the commissioner’s not using this emergency order authority. Thereby grossly over escaping the rivers and harming the users by not being allowed to harvest the salmon surpluses. Limits the use of the commissioner’s emergency order authority.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Would possibly allow the harvest to be more spread out over course or the run.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those who want flexibility in the use of the Commissioner’s EO authority.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those who want mixed interpretations and to restrict the Commissioner’s EO authority.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-440)

FAVOR

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 127 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.; and 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan. Authorize the commissioner to issue EO openings to ensure escapement ranges are met as follows:

Insert in management plans language that the department will manage for escapement goals first.

The board directs the commissioner, or his designee, to issues emergency order openings to insure that the escapement goals will be met by the department.

ISSUE: Hour and time limitations placed in regulation disregards managing the fishery within the established in-river escapement goals, even when established goals have been met or exceeded.

Provisions written into regulation are in regulatory conflict to the board’s directives to the department; To manage within the goals, distribute the escapement evenly within the escapement goal range, and manage fisheries to provide commercial fishermen with an economic yield from the harvest of these stocks based on abundance.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Placing significant risk on fishery resource management. Large escapements and especially consecutive large escapements have the potential to substantially reduce stock productivity on the Kenai River system and Kasilof River system.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? The Kenai River production could fail.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All user groups would benefit by clearly defined regulatory language with specific objective on fishery management as stated above.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? NA.

PROPOSED BY: Wesley J. Humbyrd

(HQ-07F-384)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

—
PROPOSAL 128 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
Clarify the intention to manage fisheries in season to meet the escapement goals as follows:

Insert in the 5 AAC 21.363 UCI Management Plan the following statement (7) **It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that achieving escapement goals for a salmon species take precedent over any other restrictions in these regulations on fishing time or area. It is further recognized by the Board of Fisheries that the Commissioner of ADF&G should exercise his emergency order authority to alter time and area restrictions in-season to meet these escapement goals.**

ISSUE: Overview: In order to revitalize the commercial salmon fishery, to provide for stable and predictable fishery based on principles and to promote higher quality seafood products, we need the regulatory changes contained in this proposal to be made by the Board of Fisheries. Currently, there are many contradicting and confusing regulations - these conflicting and confusing regulations need to be clarified. There are new markets that are responding very positively to the higher quality salmon products coming from Cook Inlet. In Cook Inlet we are positioned very well with electricity roads, airports, processors, secondary processors and trained individuals to efficiently compete in a quality oriented market. There are three goals that are being achieved by this proposal: industry revitalization, improved quality, and stable supply of fish.

5 AAC 21.363 UCI Management Plan, the conflicts in the current management plan must be clarified concerning area and time limitations or restrictions that conflict with achieving escapement goals. Most of the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plans have performed poorly and need revision.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The public will continue to have different expectations concerning the management actions to be taken by ADF&G staff which are in conflict in these plans and increased public dissatisfaction by the public with ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries. The commercial fishing community is struggling to survive, however; without these regulatory changes conflict, economic hardships, political unrest, lost economic benefits will occur. The wrong management actions will be applied because the returns have not been in the tier as forecasted. The quality of product in Cook Inlet will not improve and the drift gill net fleet will continue to suffer loss market share as result of economic limitations.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? The increased flexibility of ADF&G to meet escapement goals should increase quality by removing artificial and unnecessary limitations on fishing areas and times that creates a concentrated fishery. Additionally, the drift gill net fleet typical harvest between 500 and 1,200 fish on average per vessel during the peak period. This proposal is intended to lower the per vessel harvest by increasing the number of fishing periods per week. Both during the peak of the fishery and adjacent to the peak the number of fish per vessel should be reduced to allow better

quality control of the product. In addition, this regulation will provide an economic incentive for fisherman to modify their vessels to increase quality of the harvest. The increased financial reward from high quality product and the reestablishment of the historical harvest patterns and percentage will be a sufficient incentive for the existing fisherman to expend the funds and time to make the vessel conversions that are necessary to improve quality of fish harvested. In lieu of late-season, less-efficient terminal sockeye fisheries - this proposal would allow the drift fleet to harvest surpluses of sockeye when sockeye are at their highest quality during mid season. Lastly, allowing the drift fleet to fish historical periods outside the Kenai and Kasilof sections provides product to the processors that is higher quality than fish captured later in the season when they move toward their rivers of origin. It also allows for an orderly harvest of product during large return years of sockeye salmon. The present regulation requires that the harvest of surplus sockeye salmon during extra periods take place in the Kenai and Kasilof sections only, including the Kasilof Terminal Harvest Area. This results in fish harvests of a low quality. In large return years the volume of harvest during the peak periods increases as fish tend to hold in the district and enter the near shore areas of large numbers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit with this regulation since it will be clear that the Board of Fish intends to manage the resource for escapement goals.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one should suffer. These regulatory changes do not alter the allocation of the resource between users and the escapement goals. The entry of salmon into the system is already controlled by ADF&G managers to achieve biological objectives relative to harvesting equally over the entire run. These proposals do nothing to the Department's emergency order authority to modify fishing times or areas. The escapement objectives for all systems are maintained so there should be no impact on in-river users. There will be a lost harvest to set gill net fisherman who target Kenai and Kasilof sockeye stocks. However, this should not result in an upsetting of the historical harvest pattern. Other salmon stocks have not entered Cook Inlet in large numbers during this time frame so harvest of coho salmon should remain low.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Concerning managing for escapement goals there are no other alternatives. If limitations on time and area are left in place the conflict over which takes priority escapement goals or time and area restrictions will continue. By decreasing the options used by the department that could be put into regulations, however, this would defeat the purpose of allowing flexibility. For example, the fishery could be allowed to fish regular periods with a restriction on the fishery to the area below Kalgin Island. This would accomplish the goal of lowering the exploitation rate but would not be needed in all years. Any regulation that does not allow for flexibility based on abundance of the stocks was rejected.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association

(HQ-07F-399)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 129 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
Clarify the BOF intent that achieving escapement goals supersedes specific time and area managers flexibility as follows:

Add new section

7), "It is the intent of the Board of Fish that achieving escapement goals have a higher priority than following the specific time and area provisions in the other Upper Cook Inlet salmon management plans.

ISSUE: This "umbrella plan" for Upper Cook Inlet provides no clear direction concerning the conflicts between meeting escapement goals and specific time and area restrictions contained in all the other Upper Cook Inlet step down salmon management plans.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued confusion, conflicting expectations; conflict between meeting escapement goals and restrictions in the stop down plans.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Allows for the orderly management of the resource.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Provides clarity to ADF&G and the public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo - no change.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association (HQ-07F-404)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 130 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.

Clarify that achieving the established escapement goals is the primary management objective in the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management plan as follows:

Clarification in section (e) Amend as follows: It is the intent of the board that, while in most circumstances the department will adhere to the management plans in this chapter, **achieving established escapement goals is the primary management objective; therefore,** nothing in the management plans is intended to override the commissioner's emergency order authority under AS 16.05.060.

[SHOULD SIGNIFICANT NEW INFORMATION ARISE THAT, IN THE COMMISSIONER'S JUDGEMENT, WARRANTS DEPARTURE FROM THE PROVISIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT PLAN]. (The commissioner's authority is already stated in section (e); new information is determined by the commissioner under his authority).

This requested action is allocatively neutral, as the board in 2005 established that this was their intent, by passing (e) in the Upper Cook Inlet sockeye management plan.

ISSUE: The stated problem outlined by the department (ADF&G) in the UCI salmon management issues paper: "The BOF has adopted escapement goals, windows, and established fishing time restrictions. It is unclear which is the higher priority; allowable fishing time or management within the escapement goals."

This proposal requests clarification from the Board to resolve this management priority uncertainty.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Large sockeye salmon escapement events, well in excess of in-river established goals, will continue; such events severely preclude harvest on abundant surplus sockeye available. Over escapement events pose a serious risk of sockeye production; increased yield loss.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Provides direction, quality harvest operational plans can be reasonably made with clearly defined fishery management practices in place.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fisheries economy. Maintain fishery resources into the future (sockeye production), ensures future harvest (subsistence, commercial, sport) will continue, abundant, and available.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, when the department's mission is dedicated to accomplish the board's intent.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Reducing window timed events. Fish run timing, movement, and abundance cannot be pre-determined by windows in control large escapement events or over escapement in Upper Cook Inlet Sockeye systems.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association

(HQ-07F-449)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Gary Hollier PC46
KRSA PC27

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 131 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
Manage to achieve in-river goals as follows:

ADF&G should be directed by the BOF to manage all river systems to achieve the in-river sonar set by the BOF. Mandatory windows and lack of Emergency Order Authority should be eliminated from any management plan.

ISSUE: Management plans set by the Board of Fish (BOF) that tie ADF&G's hands. Mandatory windows and lack of Emergency Order Authority, do no allow ADF&G the ability to effectively manage to the in-river goals set by the BOF.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? In-river sonar goals set by the BOF will continually be exceeded. Nine out of the past 10 years in the Kasilof River the in-river sonar goal was exceeded. In the Kenai River the past 5 years, the in-river goals set by the BOF has been exceeded. Continuous escapements over the goals, set by the BOF lead to poor returns from the parent years of the large escapements. It would be prudent for the BOF to ask ADF&G if this scenario does exist.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Quality: yes, an orderly predictable fishery should lead to higher quality processing.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All user groups in Cook Inlet who want a stable, predictable fishery, with in-river sonar goals set by the BOF and managed to be achieved by ADF&G.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? I can't figure out who wouldn't want in-river sonar goals achieved.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Gary L. Hollier (HQ-07F-145)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 132 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan. Implement priorities among salmon management plans for Upper Cook Inlet as follows:

Amend the umbrella Salmon Management Plan to provide explicit direction on priorities as follows:

(f) **Implementation priorities among specific management plans are as follows:**

(A) **Achieving established escapement goals is the primary management objective unless otherwise specified.**

(B) **Achieving the lower end of every optimal, biological, or sustainable escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of any optimal, biological, or sustainable escapement.**

(C) **Fisheries shall be provided no less than a 51% harvest share of species and stocks designated for management priority of that fishery** (e.g. 5AAC 21.358 northern district chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses, 5 AAC 21.360 Kenai River late-run primarily for sport and guided sport uses, 5 AAC 21.360 Northern District coho, late-run Kenai King, and Kenai River coho for personal use, sport and guided sport fisheries.)

(D) **Limitations on emergency order authority and fishery closure windows designated to distribute escapement throughout the run and to the balance allocation and opportunity among fisheries shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of any optimum, biological, sustainable, or in-river escapement goal.**

ISSUE: Upper Cook Inlet salmon management is governed by five different management plans in regulation. Many of these plans overlap in time and area and may have objectives that compete with one another. Lack of explicit direction has led to confusion and subjective interpretations as to which objectives may have priority under different circumstances. Priority language considered by the BOF at the 2007 statewide meeting identifies escapement goals as the primary management objective within a specific plan but does not provide adequate direction to resolve questions of potentially competing objectives among plans.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Plans may not be implemented consistent with the intent and allocation decisions by the Board of Fisheries. Fisheries managers will be saddled with making or defending potentially subjective decisions with significant allocation implementations.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users and the management system will benefit from clear management plans.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Any user group attempting to prosecute their fishery without regard for effects on other users.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because purported

confusion over competing priorities has been used as a basis for arguments to circumvent or abrogate management plans reflecting the board's intent.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association

(HQ-07F-152)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Homer AC4
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 133 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan.
Specify from June 20 to August 20, Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks will be primarily managed for high quality as follows:

Amend this regulation to add a new subsection as follows (a) (8)*:

(8) From June 20 through August 20, salmon stocks which normally move in Upper Cook Inlet will be managed primarily for high quality commercial uses.

* a new (a)(7) has been suggested in another proposal.

ISSUE: The drift fleet has been denied a reasonable opportunity to harvest abundant commercial salmon stocks.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department will continue to be unable to biologically manage the Central District salmon stocks, specifically, Kenai and Kasilof sockeye salmon, which will result in economic loss to the state and its residents.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Processors will have fish delivered of a much higher quality on a regular predictable basis, rather than unpredictable, sporadic deliveries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Danny Thompson

(HQ-07F-395)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Tony Russ PC29
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 134 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Delete portions of Northern District management plan as follows:

5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

(a) The purpose of this management plan [ARE TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF COHO SALMON BOUND FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF UPPER COOK INLET AND is to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE THE CHUM, PINK, AND SOCKEYE SALMON STOCKS PRIMARILY FOR COMMERCIAL USES TO PROVIDE COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN WITH AN ECONOMIC YEILD FROM THE HARVEST OF THESE SALMON RESOURCES BASED ON ABUNDANCE.] The department shall also manage the chum, pink and sockeye salmon stocks to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho salmon.[TO PROVIDE SPORT AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMAN A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST THESE SALMON RESOURCES OVER THE ENTIRE RUN, AS MEASURED BY THE FREQUENCY OF INRIVER RESTRICTIONS, OR AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION AND OTHER REGULATIONS.]

(b) The department shall manage the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries based on the abundance of Yentna River sockeye salmon , the Yentna River escapement goal, or other salmon abundance indices as it deems appropriate. [ACHIEVEMENT OF THE LOWER END OF THE YENTNA RIVER OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL SHALL TAKE PRIORITY OVER NOT EXCEEDING THE UPPER END OF THE KENAI RIVER ESCAPEMENT GOAL. WHEN THE SOCKEYE SALMON RETURNS TO THE KENAI RIVER ARE FOUR MILLION OR GREATER, THE OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL IS 75,000 TO 180,000 SOCKEYE SALMON IN THE YENTNA RIVER.]

(c) From July 20 through July 31, if the department's assessment of abundance indicates that restrictions are necessary to achieve the escapement goal, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Northern District and immediately reopen the season during which the number of set gillnets that may be used is limited to the following options selected at the discretion of the commissioner:

- (1) three set gillnets that are not more than 105 fathoms in aggregate length;
- (2) two set gillnets that are not more than 70 fathoms in aggregate length;
- (3) one set gillnet that is not more than 35 fathoms in length.

(d) In addition to the provisions specified in (b) and (c) of this section, the department shall manage the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries to minimize the incidental take of coho salmon stocks bound for the Northern District in the following manner:

- (1) additional fishing periods, other than the weekly fishing periods described in 5 AAC 21.32- (a) (1), may not be provided when coho salmon are expected to be the most abundant species harvested during that period; additional fishing periods may not be provided based on the abundance of Northern District coho salmon;
- (2) after August 15, the department shall limit the harvest of coho salmon in the

Northern District by limiting commercial fishing time to the weekly fishing periods described in 5 AAC 21.320(a)(1).

[(e) PERSONAL USE FISHING WITH A SET GILLNET IS PROHIBITED IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT.]

[(f) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTIBLE, CONDUCT HABITAT ASSESSMENTS ON A SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE BOARD'S TRIENNIAL MEETING CYCLE. IF THE ASSESSMENTS DEMONSTRATES A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT CAUSED BY NONCOMMERCIAL FISHERMEN, THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO REPORT THOSE FINDINGS TO THE BOARD AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE BOARD FOR APPRIATE MODIFICATION OF THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN.]

ISSUE: Delete meaningless and confusing language from the plans.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI with no benefit to any users in the long term.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, this system worked for 50 years with great success.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-225)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Tony Russ PC29
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 135 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Amend Northern District salmon management plan as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Amend (a) as follows: [THE PURPOSES OF THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN ARE TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF COHO SALMON BOUND FOR TH ENORTHERN DISTRICT OF UPPER COOK INLET AND TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT DIRECTION FOR MANAGEMENT OF SALMON STOCKS.] The department shall manage the chum, pink and sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses to provide commercial fishermen with an economic yield from the harvest of these salmon resources based on abundance. [THE DPEARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE CHUM, PINK AND SOCKEYE SLAMON STOCKS TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO SALMON TO PROVIDE SPORT AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMEN A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST THESE SALMON RESOURCES OVER THE ENTIRE RUN, AS MEASURED BY THE FREQUENCY OF IN-RIVER RESTRICTIONS, OR AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION AND OTHER REGULATIONS.]

ISSUE: Provide flexibility and clarity to the Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued confusion and conflicts.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? No one, removes redundant language.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The Mat-Su may feel impacted.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association

(HQ-07F-402)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
Tony Russ PC29

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 136 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Direct department to manage chum, pink, and sockeye salmon primarily for commercial uses as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.358 Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

(a) [THE PURPOSE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN ARE TO MINIMIZE THE HRVEST OF COHO SALMON BOUND FOR THE NOTHERN DISTRICT OF UPPER COOK INLET AND TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT DIRECTION FOR MANAGEMENT OF SALMON STOCKS.]
The department shall manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses to provide commercial fisherman with an economic yield from the harvest of these salmon resources based on abundance. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE CHUM, PINK, AND SOCKEYE SALMON STOCKS TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO SALMON, TO PROVIDE SPORT AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMAN A RESONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST THESE SALMON RESOURCES OVER THE ENTIRE RUN, AS MEASURED BY THE FREQUENCY OF INRIVER RESTRICTIONS, OR AS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION AND OTHER REGULATIONS.]

Repeal: [(b)]; [(d)]; [(d)(1)] and [(d) (2)].

ISSUE: To give the managers the flexibility to manage on a real-time basis and for the users to harvest the salmon surplus to spawning escapement.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued conflict and confusion. Continued waste of surplus salmon. Economic loss.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Quality will improve by allowing managers to manage on a real-time basis and the harvest to be spread out more evenly for the entire run.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users, the resource, the managers, the local economies by harvesting the surplus and maintaining future high returns from managing biologically for maximum sustained yields.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The coho stocks are healthy, abundant and are being harvested substantially below the maximum exploitation rates. There is more than reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. Remaining status quo will only continue to waste the harvestable surplus and put undue restriction on the managers and fishermen.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-442)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Tony Russ PC29
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 137 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Eliminate the regulatory language from plans that direct the department to minimize harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho in order to provide personal use, sport as follows:

From all management plans eliminate the wording: [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO, AND KENAI RIVER COHO SALMON STOCKS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PERSONAL USE, AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMEN WITH A SESONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON RESOURCES.]

ISSUE: Unnecessary language in management plans that restricts the flexibility for the managers to manage on a real-time basis of in season abundance.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued conflict, unnecessary restrictions resulting in un-harvested salmon surpluses.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It allows for harvest efforts to be spread over the course of the run.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users by harvesting the salmon surpluses.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The coho runs are healthy and are only being exploited at less than half the biological exploitation rate. In river users have reasonable opportunity.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-456)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Central Peninsula AC8
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

- Matanuska Valley AC2
- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Sustina Valley AC11
- Tony Russ PC29
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
- KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 138 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Reinstate the pre-2005 Northern District Salmon Management Plan as follows:

5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan

- (a) The purposes of this management plan are to minimize the harvest of coho salmon bound for the Northern district of upper Cook Inlet and to provide the department direction for management of salmon stocks. The department shall manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks for commercial uses in order to provide commercial fisherman with an economic yield from the harvest of these salmon resources based on abundance. The department shall also manage the chum, pink, and sockeye salmon stocks to minimize the harvest of northern District coho salmon, in order to provide sport and guided sport fisherman with a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon resources over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions, or as specified in this section and other management plan.
- (b) The department shall manage the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries based on the abundance of Yentna River sockeye salmon and the Yentna River escapement goal, or other salmon abundance indices as it deems appropriate. Achievement of the lower end of the Yentna River escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River escapement goal.
- (c) From July 20 through July 31, if the department's assessment of abundance indicates that restrictions are necessary in order for the escapement goal to be met, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the commercial set gillnet fishery or close the commercial set gillnet fishery and immediately reopen the season during which the number of set gillnets that may be used is limited to the following options selected at the discretion of the commissioner;
 - (1) three set gillnets that are not more than 105 fathoms in aggregate length;
 - (2) two set gillnets that are not more than 70 fathoms in aggregate length;
 - (3) one set gillnet that is not more than 35 fathoms in length.
- (d) In addition to the provisions specified in (b) and (c) of this section, the department shall manage the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries to minimize the incidental take of coho salmon stocks bound for the Northern District in the following manner:
 - (1) additional fishing periods, other than the weekly fishing periods described in 5 AAC 21.320(a)(1), may not be provided when coho salmon are expected to be the most abundant species harvested during that period; additional fishing periods may not be provided based on the abundance of Northern District coho salmon;
 - (2) after August 15, the department shall limit the harvest of coho salmon in the Northern district by limiting commercial fishing time to the weekly fishing periods described in 5 AAC 21.3230(a)(1);
 - (3) After the last regular weekly fishing period in July through August 10, a person may not operate more than two set gillnets that are more than

70 fathoms in aggregate length.

- (e) In the Central District commercial drift gillnet fishery, weekly fishing periods Described in 5 AAC21.320(b) shall be restricted as follows:
 - (1) for one regular fishing period designed from July 9 through July 15, the department shall restrict fishing to the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict;
 - (2) except as provided in (f) and (g) of this section, the department shall restrict fishing for only two consecutive regular fishing periods from July 16 through July 31, to either or both of the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict or that portion of the Central District south of Kalgin island.
- (f) During the periods restricted in (e)(2) of this section, if the department determines that the abundance of the total run strength of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon return is greater than three million fish, the department may allow a drift gillnet fishery for the first regular weekly fishing period on or immediately before July 25 and the first weekly period after July 25 in the waters opened under (e) (2) of this section and in the additional water of Cook Inlet enclosed by a line from 60° 20.43' N. lat., 151° 54.83' W. long, to a point at 60° 34.00' N. lat., 151° 41.75' W. long., to a point at 60° 34.00' N. lat., 151° 25.93' W. long., to a point at 60° 27.10' N. lat., 151° 25.50' W. long., to a point at 60° 20.43' N. lat., 151° 28.55' W. long. If two consecutive fishing restrictions have already been implemented during two other regular weekly fishing periods from July 16 through July 31, no further area restrictions are necessary during the first regular weekly period on or immediately before July 25 and the first weekly period after July 25. Drift gillnet fishing is authorized in this additional area only if the department determines that
 - (1) sockeye salmon escapement goals are being met in the Kenai, Yentna, and Kasilof Rivers;
 - (2) the abundance of pink salmon and chum salmon stocks are sufficient to withstand a commercial harvest; and
 - (3) coho salmon stocks are sufficient to withstand a commercial harvest, and the commercial harvest of coho salmon will not prevent the sport and guided sport fisherman from having a reasonable opportunity to harvest coho salmon over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions.
- (g) If after July 20, the department determines that the abundance of the total run strength of the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon return is greater than four million fish, the commissioner may open a drift gillnet fishery for the first regular period after July 25 in the area of the Central District normally open to drift gillnet fishing during regular periods, if the department determines that

- (1) sockeye salmon escapement goals are being met in the Kenai, Yentna, and Kasilof Rivers;
 - (2) the abundance of pink salmon and chum salmon stocks are sufficient to withstand a commercial harvest; and
 - (3) coho salmon stocks are sufficient to withstand a commercial harvest, and the commercial harvest of coho salmon will not prevent the sport and guided sport fisherman from having a reasonable opportunity to harvest coho salmon over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions.
- (h) Personal use fishing with a set gillnet is prohibited in the Northern District.
 - (i) The Board of Fisheries (board) recognizes that major chum salmon stocks in Cook Inlet are currently below historic levels. Chum salmon stocks in the upper Cook Inlet Area are bound primarily for the Northern District and are not harvested to an appreciable degree in the Kenai and Kasilof Sections approach to chum salmon management, no additional fishing periods shall be provided to the drift gillnet fishery outside the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict, except as provided in this management plan.
 - (j) Pink salmon stocks harvested in the Central and Northern Districts are bound primarily for the Kenai River and river systems in the Northern District, and pink salmon run timing is similar to that of coho salmon. To minimize the harvest of coho salmon, a directed pink salmon fishery may only occur as specified in 5 AAC 21.356.
 - (k) The department shall, to the extent practicable, conduct habitat assessments on a schedule that conforms to the board's triennial meeting cycle. If habitat causes by noncommercial fishermen, the department is requested to report those findings to appropriate modification of this management plan.

ISSUE: The Old Northern District Salmon Management Plan was revised at the last Cook Inlet hearings in 2005. Numerous major changes were made that have had detrimental effect on the Northern District sockeye salmon runs. Consumptive fishing has been shut off for the last two summers, the subsistence users on the Yentna River have not been able to catch enough sockeye salmon for their winter food supplies. Escapement goals have been missed in the Northern District on both systems with escapement goals and are forecasted to be missed in the summer of 2008.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Sockeye salmon runs in the entire Susitna River drainage system and the Fish Creek drainage many well see more escapement goals missed if immediate and positive actions are not taken to insure that their escapement goals surpassed by several tens of thousands up word of the upper end of the their goals.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Northern District sockeye salmon stocks and others resident species that depend on them for a food source. The consumptive users that

depend on them for food.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one when salmon are managed according to the sustainable salmon policy everything and everyone wins in the long run.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Have the Yentna River and Fish Creek classified as stocks of yield concerns.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-360)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Loney Anderson PC17
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Tony Russ PC29
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 139 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Close commercial fishing to protect Alexander Creek stocks as follows:

- Close commercial fishing in Alexander Creek
- Close and let the run come back (3-4 years).
- Open to one fish per year (no catch and release).
- Open June 15 - June 30 (four hours a day).

ISSUE: We are running out of fish.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? No fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Give the fish a better chance to reproduce.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Future generations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Lodge owners, commercial fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Let it stay as is, no fish in 3-4 years.

PROPOSED BY: Kris and Marie Draper

(HQ-07F-004)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
 Anchorage AC9
 Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's
 Coalition PC9
 Matanuska Valley AC5
 Mat-Valley AC10

UCIDA PC30
 Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
 Association PC45
 KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 140 - 5 AAC 21.358(b). Northern District Salmon Management Plan.
Clarify escapement goal priorities regarding the Yentna and Kenai rivers as follows:

Clarify that achievement of the lower end of the Yentna escapement goal shall take priority over any upper Kenai escapement goal, be it the Kenai OEG or the run-strength-based in-river goal.

ISSUE: The Northern District Salmon Management Plan directs that achievement of the lower end of the Yentna River optimal escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River escapement goal. However it is unclear to which goal in the Kenai the plan is referencing.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Managers will lack guidance on appropriate management goals and may be faced with potentially allocative choices.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All fisheries will benefit from sustainable Yentna sockeye management.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Central district commercial driftnet and setnet fisheries may be constrained in years of low Yentna sockeye returns.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered limiting the consistent to central drift net fisheries outside of the Kenai and Kasilof corridors but this alternative was rejected because historical genetic stock composition data from the setnet catch indicates that Kenai and Kasilof setnet fisheries take significant numbers of northern district sockeye as they move north along the beaches and that aggressive setnet fisheries for Kenai and Kasilof sockeye can preclude achievement of the Yentna sockeye escapement goals with detrimental consequences for Susitna sockeye conservation and yield. We also considered the need for a stock-of-concern designation but commercial fishery limitations in the central district during 2006 were adequate to achieve the minimum Yentna escapement so a stock-of-concern designation may not be necessary as long of future fishery management is similarly effective.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-161)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 141 - 5 AAC 21.358(c). Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Allow longer sockeye season in Northern District as follows:

5 AAC 21.358 (c) From July 20 through August 6 [JULY 31], if the department's assessment of abundance....

ISSUE: This regulation was intended to give the Department flexibility with Northern District closures during times when Northern District sockeye salmon abundance indicates that restrictions are necessary to achieve the escapement goal. It gives the Department the ability to restrict gear in the Northern District without complete closure. The current regulation ends this flexibility on July 31. However, the Department regularly closes the Northern District into August 6, it gives the Department the ability to restrict the Northern District without a complete closure if it so decides.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Department does not have the flexibility to restrict but not close, the Northern District during periods of sockeye concern, the Department currently has only two options for the Northern District set gillnet fishery, either close for everyone or fish everyone. This proposal provides them with an additional option of keeping the fishery open, but with reduced gear.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allows Northern District fishers to provide fresh fish to niche markets will less disruption.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Northern District and the fish buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-416)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Ronald T. Stanek PC49

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 142 - 5 AAC 21.358(d). Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Allow additional coho fishing time after August 10 in Northern District as follows:

5 AAC 21.358 (d) After August 10, fishing in the Northern District will be open Monday, Thursday, and Saturday.

ISSUE: The Northern District set net fleet is already in compliance with the Northern District Salmon Management Plans that mandates minimizing coho salmon catches by restricting the fleet to the regular Mondays and Thursdays August 1 through 10. It is generally agreed that the bulk of the coho runs is in-river by August 10. Allowing an additional opener on Saturday would provide opportunity for Northern District fishers to fish their traditional coho salmon fishery without adversely impacting the coho salmon run while also allowing for a “weather window”.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued inability to harvest and deliver fish to a historic and growing niche market. Under utilization of coho salmon socks that the Northern District set netters have traditionally harvested with no historical damage to the Northern District coho salmon stocks. There are no coho salmon conservation concerns, and the Department has EO authority to close if one manifests.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Reliable deliveries with quality fish to processors and the fish buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Northern District and the fish buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-417)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Central Peninsula AC8
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
- Ronald T. Stanek PC49

- Matanuska Valley AC2
- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Sustina Valley AC11
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
- KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 143 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.
Manage Northern District Eastern Subdistrict by regular periods not tied to Yentna River escapement as follows:

(b) The department shall manage **the General Subdistrict of** the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries based on the abundance of Yentna River sockeye salmon and the Yentna River escapement goal, or other salmon abundance indices as it deems appropriate. Achievement of the lower end of the Yentna River escapement goal shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River escapement goal. **The Eastern Subdistrict shall be passively managed for regular periods unless the department determines in-season that conservation measures are necessary.**

ISSUE: I want the board to change the management of the Northern District set gillnet fishery to fish on the east side for Monday and Thursday regular periods and not be tied into the Yentna escapement.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? A fishery that catches very few Yentna/Susitna fish will continue to be restricted for no reason.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Provides a stable and reliable fishery so processors can count on product to fill fresh markets.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District east side fishermen and processors.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Tom M. Rollman

(HQ-07F-069)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Michael and Susan Carlson PC12
Thomas M. Rollman PC15
Central Peninsula AC8
Louis Finch PC 40
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Trevor Rollman PC47
Ronald T. Stanek PC49

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC41
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 144 - 5 AAC 21.358(c) Northern District Salmon Management Plan.

Allow the commissioner to selectively close specific statistical areas in the Northern District commercial salmon fishery as follows:

5 AAC 21.358(c)...the commissioner may, by emergency order, **selectively close specific statistical areas of** the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Northern District....

ISSUE: Since the early 1990's, the Northern District has increasingly experienced peak-run closures in an effort to achieve the Yentna River escapement goal in the Upper Cook Inlet mixed stock fishery. Although the Northern District catches relatively few sockeye salmon, it is the most "terminal" fishery and therefore continually experiences the brunt of the conservation measure by being completely closed rather than Central District restrictions (but still allowed to fish).

Since 1993, Northern District closures are as follows:

1993 - 1 closure

1994 - 1 closure

1995 - 1 closure

1996 - 1 closure July 22

1997 - 2 closures July 18 & 21

1998 - 3 closures July 20, 27, 31

1999 - 2 closures July 22 & 29

2000 - None

2001 - 2 closures July 23 & 26

2002 - 2 closures July 25 & 29

2003 - None

2004 - 1 closure (August 2) 2n nets (July 26); one net (July 29)

2005 - 5 closures (closed July 21 through August 4; fished August 8)

2006 - 8 closures (closed July 10 through August 3; fished August 7)

One year (2004), the Department used a recently added regulation and allowed the Northern District set netters to fish limited gear for two periods.

These Northern District closures affect all statistical areas in both the General and Eastern subdistricts of the Northern District. There are six open statistical areas in the General Subdistrict and three in the Eastern Subdistrict.

The intent of this proposal is to allow the Department more flexibility in opening and closing Northern District statistical areas so areas that are targeting more abundant stocks are not closed under a district-wide "Northern District closure." It is important to note that unlike the Central District the Northern District is held to Monday and Thursday 12 hour openers. The total Northern District fishing effort in a week with no closures is 24 hours. In recent years, there have been no additional fishing days granted and no extensions of hours. The Yentna River sockeye salmon escapement woes virtually guarantee extra Northern District fishing time is not likely to occur in the foreseeable

future.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Northern District fishers will continue to lose fishing opportunity even if the closure of particular areas are not facilitating the desired escapement, not provide timely fresh salmon to established markets, and lose markets.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It allows Northern District fishers to provide fresh fish to niche markets with less disruption.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Northern District and the fish buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-365)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Betty Gilcrist PC38
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

KRSA PC27
Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 145 - 5 AAC 21.358. Northern District Salmon Management Plan.
Modify management of Northern District as follows:

(b) The department shall manage the General Subdistrict of the Northern District commercial salmon fisheries based on the abundance of Yentna River sockeye salmon and the Yentna River escapement goal, or other salmon abundance indices as it deems appropriate. Achievement of the lower end of the Yentna River shall take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kenai River escapement goal. The Eastern Subdistrict shall be passively managed for regular periods unless the department determines in-season that conservation measures are necessary.

ISSUE: I want the Board to change the management of the Northern District set gillnet fishery to fish on the east side for Monday and Thursday regular periods and not be tied into the Yentna escapement.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? A fishery that catches very few Yentna/Susitna fish will continue to be restricted for no reason.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Provides a stable and reliable fishery so processors can count on product to fill fresh markets.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District east side fishermen and processors.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Betty Gilcrist

(HQ-07F-028)

FAVOR

Michael and Susan Carlson PC12
Central Peninsula AC8
Betty Gilcrist PC38
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Ronald T. Stanek PC49

KRSA PC27

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 146 - 5 AAC 21.366 (1). Northern District King Salmon Management Plan. Remove reference to specific commercial fishing periods in the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan as follows:

(1)...the season will be open for [THREE] commercial fishing periods with the first fishing period beginning on the first Monday on or after May 25, except when May 25 falls within a closed period, in which case the season opens the next following open period and **continue through** [CLOSES] June 24, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

ISSUE: By limiting the Northern District king salmon fishery to three periods, Northern District set netters are not allowed to harvest kings over the duration of the run. In 2002, the Board of Fisheries modified the management plan to open this fishery on the first Monday after May 25 (instead of June 1) to ensure the fishing effort was on the peak of the run. In deliberations, the Board limited the fishery to three periods. Northern District fishers have established niche markets for these king salmon, but the premature closure disrupts providing fresh fish to these markets. This fishery has a 12,500 harvest cap that has not been approached in recent years. The Northern District king salmon return is healthy. Since registration requirements were implemented in 1993, the average annual harvest in the Northern District directed king salmon fishery has been 2,982 from 52 permit holders.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Northern District fishers will continue to under harvest king salmon, not provide timely fresh salmon to established markets, and lose markets.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, Northern District fishers have established niche markets for king salmon and the premature closure disrupts providing fresh fish to these markets.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District set netters, tenders, processors, the Village of Tyonek, and the fresh fish fish-buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The extra kings harvested on one or two additional Mondays per season will likely not affect any other users. Upper Cook Inlet Area registration limits the number of commercial fishers in this niche fishery. The number of Northern District set netters is relatively small. The Northern District set netters already harvest well below the 12,500 annual cap.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-412)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Ronald T. Stanek PC49

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 147 - 5 AAC 21.366(2). Northern District King Salmon Management Plan. Add Thursday to the allowed king salmon fishing periods in the Northern District as follows:

(2) fishing periods are from 7:00 am to 7:00pm on Mondays **and Thursdays.**

ISSUE: Limiting Northern District fishers to one day per week does not allow fishers to take advantage of abundant king stocks. This fishery has 12,500 harvest cap that has not been approached in recent years. Upper Cook Inlet Area Registration limits the number of commercial fishers in this niche fishery. The number of Northern District set netters is relatively small.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued under harvest by the commercial fishery, loss of markets.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Fishers will be able to provide fresh-caught king salmon twice a week rather than once a week.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Northern District and the fish buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-413)

FAVOR

Michael and Susan Carlson PC12
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Ronald T. Stanek PC49
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Chickaloon Village PC10
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 148 - 5 AAC 21.366(4) Northern District King Salmon Management Plan. Increase maximum king salmon net length mesh size in the Northern District as follows:

(4) set gill nets may not exceed 35 fathoms in length and **eight** [SIX] inches in mesh size.

ISSUE: Current regulations limit mesh size to six inches on the targeted king salmon fishery. This causes larger fish to hit the net, maybe become entangled, maybe become mortally injured, but not become caught and not harvested.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued loss of larger king salmon that are entangled, not adequately caught, and ultimately roll out of the net with an unknown fate.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, Northern District fishers will be able to harvest larger king salmon that become loosely entangled in their under-sized gear and provide these fish to establish niche markets for king salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District set netters on this beach, tenders, processors, and the fresh fish fish-buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-415)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Chickaloon Village PC10
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Ronald T. Stanek PC49
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 149 - 5 AAC 21.366(8). Northern District King Salmon Management Plan. Allow additional fishing time for the area located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River as follows:

(8) allow additional fishing time for the area located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River.

ISSUE: The area located one mile south of the Theodore River to the Susitna River is limited to one opening for king salmon. There have been numerous sport fishery liberalizations in last few years. The commercial fishery in this area remains severely restricted.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued under harvest by the commercial fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, Northern District fishers have established niche markets for king salmon and the closure disrupts providing fresh fish to these markets.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District set netters on this beach, tenders, processors, and the fresh fish fish-buying public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-414)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2

UCIDA PC30

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Anchorage AC9

Ronald T. Stanek PC49

Sustina Valley AC11

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 150 - 5 AAC 21.366. Northern District King Salmon Management Plan. Modify fishing periods in the Northern District as follows:

except as provided in (8) of this section, the season will be from May 25 until June 24;

fishing periods are from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays only;

ISSUE: Remove the limitation on three fishing periods and add a second regular period per week to allow us to harvest the allocation that was given under the plan. The average harvest in this fishery is not even half of the harvest cap of 12,500 kings. In 2006 only 4000 kings were harvested.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? More Chinook will go unharvested.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District commercial fishermen who have been restricted for many years without any benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody, there are fish surplus to escapement needs in nearly every creek in nearly all years.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Rick Jewell

(HQ-07F-024)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Ronald T. Stanek PC49

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Chickaloon Village PC10
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 151 - 5 AAC 21.366. Northern District King Salmon Management Plan. Allow drift gillnets during May and June in west side fishery as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.366(4) as follows:

(4)(a) Drift gillnets will not exceed 100 fathoms in length and six inches in mesh size.

ISSUE: Drift gillnet fishermen are currently not allowed to participate in the early May and June king salmon fishery on the west side of Upper Cook Inlet. The board has allocated 12,000 kings to set gillnet fishery. Drift gillnet fishermen wish to participate in this fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Underutilization of the 12,000 kings allocated to commercial fishermen.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? These early kings would become part of the drift fleet's revitalization and harvest of quality products.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The drift gillnet fishermen that chooses to participate. Less than 50.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. In the last few years the setnetters harvested a fraction of the 12,000 kings allocated to commercial users. These are surplus kings available for commercial harvests.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Thompson

(HQ-07F-389)

FAVOR

UCIDA PC30

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC2
- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Chickaloon Village PC10
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Central Peninsula AC8
- Anchorage AC9
- Sustina Valley AC11
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
- KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 152 - 5 AAC 21.368. Big River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.

Modify the plan to provide for the following:

Amend this regulation as follows:

- (a) delete “set”...by [SET] gillnets...
- (b) delete “along the main shore”...of Kustatan Subdistrict [ALONG THE MAIN SHORE]....
- (c) Change opening date to May 1 from June 1.
- (e) Delete “set”...by [SET] gillnets...
- (e)(2) change “one” to “two”:...may operate more than that **two** [ONE] gillnets at a time.
- (g) delete “incidental.” Change “1,000” to “1,500”:...when the [INCIDENTAL] harvest of chinook salmon reaches **1,500** [1,000] fish.
- (h) new section added: The combined harvest of set and drift gillnet harvest of sockeye salmon will not exceed a 40% exploitation rate on these stocks.

Amend 5 AAC 21.310 to accommodate these earlier openings.

ISSUE: Lack of harvest opportunity for Upper Cook Inlet drift CFEC salmon permit holders on the first sockeyes returning to the Upper Cook Inlet, Drift, Big River and Kustatan River Systems. These first (May) sockeye harvests will allow fishermen and processors the opportunity to expand our markets and products.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? As we all know early May sockeye are economically valuable in the fresh fish markets of North America. There are no conservation reasons why the opportunity to harvest these fish should be denied.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Provides a source of high quality fresh sockeye in May and June.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? CFEC permit holders, processors and the economy. The department has indicated that the sport fish harvests are ten times larger than the statewide harvest survey has indicated. Even with an actual sport harvest ten times larger than formerly though the department has no proposals before the Board of Fisheries to restrict these harvests giving further evidence that these stocks can sustain additional harvest opportunities.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Currently, according to the department, these sockeye runs have available harvest opportunities. A 20 to 40 percent commercial exploitation rate is quite conservative and reasonable.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Higher exploitation rate 40 to 60 percent.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Thompson

(HQ-07F-390)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Matanuska Valley AC2
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 153 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.
Amend these regulations as follows:

(4) fishing may occur only in the waters of Cook Inlet enclosed by a line extending from Boulder Point at 60° 46.39' N. lat., to Shell Platform C at 60° 45.80' N. lat., 151° 30.30' W. long., a line from Shell Platform C at 60° 45.80' N. lat., 151° 30.30' W. long., to the Kalgin Buoy at 60° 04.70' N. lat., 152° 09.90' W. long., a line from the Kalgin Buoy at 60° 04.70' N. lat., 152° 09.90' W. long., to the southwest corner of the Kasilof Section at 60° 04.02' N. lat., 151° 46.60' W. long., and the western boundary of the Kenai and Kasilof Sections as described in 5 AAC 21.200(b)(2)(B) and (C).

PROBLEM: Between 2002 regulations and 2005 regulations, the area for the pink salmon fishery was inadvertently deleted.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department will have to continue to describe the open area by emergency order.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users. The legal fishing area will be described and known by everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-07F-267)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Matanuska Valley AC2
Anchorage AC9
KRSA PC27

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 154 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Allow earlier and more fishing periods for pink salmon harvest and delete permit requirements as follows:

Revise 5 AAC 21.356 (c)(2) to read as follows:

“in even numbered years, after August 1 [10], the commissioner will open, by emergency order, six [THREE] additional fishing periods;”

Delete 5 AAC 21.356(d) [TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMERCIAL PINK SALMON FISHERY, A CFEC PERMIT HOLDER MUST FIRST OBTAIN A PINK SALMON PERMIT FROM THE DEPARTMENT BY AUGUST 9 AT THE DEPARTMENT OFFICE IN SOLDOTNA OR HOMER. THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT MAY INCLUDE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, GEAR RESTRICTIONS, AND ANY OTHER CONDITIONS THAT THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES ARE NECESSARY FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF THE PINK SALMON STOCK; FISHING MUST BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT.]

ISSUE: Unnecessary registrations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Needless registrations and extra work.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? A few pink salmon fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No others considered.

PROPOSED BY: Dyer VanDevere

(HQ-07F-396)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 155 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Allow set gillnet use for harvesting pink salmon

5 AAC 21.356 Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan: (d) drift gillnets may not exceed 150 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth. **Set gillnets may not exceed 35 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth, 105 fathoms in aggregate.**

5 AAC 21.310 (2) (C) (i, ii, and iii). Fishing season dates of August **15** [10].

ISSUE: The current pink salmon management plan arbitrarily excludes the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fisheries in Cook Inlet. The commercial drift only pink fishery registration has created an exclusive fishery of a State fishery resource available during the month of August.

Cook Inlet pink salmon stocks are managed primarily for commercial use; set gillnet fisheries are commercial. No conservation issues exist on coho but restrictions exist on the Upper Sub district set gillnet fishery in the Pink Salmon management plan. This exclusion restricts the most productive harvest period on Kenai bound pink salmon stocks available.

Pink salmon stocks bound for the Kenai River on even years are evaluated in the 4 to 6 million range. Under current regulation, a drift only registration opportunity exists; excluding foregone harvest on approximately 500,000 pink salmon that are available for harvest in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? A total waste of a salmon resource will continue. Spawned pink carcasses piled 3 feet thick in the lower and middle reaches of the Kenai River and the rotting odor in neighboring communities will continue unabated.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, a pink salmon harvest would be quite an improvement as food.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishing families who have historically fished for these salmon stocks and have marketed this fish for sales.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one considering several million pinks are estimated to return to the Kenai River.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? NA.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association

(HQ-07F-445)

FAVOROPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 156 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan. Add set and drift gillnet opportunities to harvest pink salmon as follows:

(c) (4) set gillnets may not exceed 105 fathoms (or 140 fathoms) in aggregate length or 35 fathoms long or 45 meshes in depth.

ISSUE: No set net opportunity for Pink Salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued loss of harvest opportunity.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, there will be an orderly harvest and continued processing.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set net fishermen and processors as well as the general community.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Sculpins.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions.

PROPOSED BY: South K-Beach Independent Fishermen's Alliance (HQ-07F-308)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 157 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Amend the Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan for commercial uses as follows:

5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

(a) **The department shall manage the Cook Inlet pink salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses to provide an economic yield from the harvest of these salmon resources based on abundance.**

ISSUE: The current pink salmon management plan does not allow the managers the flexibility to manage for harvesting the pink salmon harvestable surplus. Literally tens of millions of pinks are not allowed to be harvested under the current management plans.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The continued waste of tens of millions of pink salmon. Pink salmon were historically harvested in large numbers. The current plan allows virtually no pink salmon harvest and allows most of the entire run to go un-harvested by anyone.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It allows the harvest of pinks over the entire run. It will allow a harvest of quality and quantity to develop markets. The Cook Inlet pink are large, bright and highly marketable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those who wish to harvest, process and market pink salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. There are literally millions of pinks going un-harvested and wasted in Cook Inlet. The coho runs are healthy and only being exploited at less than half the biological exploitation rate.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. Status quo only continues the waste of a high protein food for absolutely no reason.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-439)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 158 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Allow department to open set gillnet periods in Cook Inlet as follows:

Allow for managers to open setnetting and don't restrict drifters to five miles of offshore at time when pink salmon are abundant. Allow managers to determine when there is a concern about silver salmon abundance; don't just close the season on an arbitrary date. Let the season be closed by Emergency Order.

ISSUE: There is no real meaningful opportunity to harvest pinks in Cook Inlet, especially for the setnet fishery. Pink salmon, at times, are incredibly abundant and totally underutilized. Left unharvested, pinks simply clog the river and benefit nobody. There is without a doubt a huge harvestable surplus. Setnetters, canneries, drifters, the State- through raw fish taxes, and the local economy would all benefit from a commercial harvest of pinks. The pink fishery was closed because of concerns in one year when there was a perceived shortage of silvers in the Kenai River. Returns of silvers have been strong since then, even in return years from low escapements. The exploitation rate of silvers in Cook Inlet needs to be closely examined by the Board of Fisheries so that the truth about the availability of a potential increased harvest is known. Don't allow pinks to go to waste simply because someone doesn't want commercial fishermen to catch even a single silver, especially in years when no conservation concern has been identified for silvers and when exploitation rates are so low.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Pink salmon will continue to be wasted with no benefit to anybody. Commercial fishermen and the economy in general will continue to suffer from not being given the opportunity to utilize this abundant resource.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It allows for a harvest of, and benefit from, an unused and abundant resource.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen, canneries, the State-through raw fish taxes, and the local economy.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody will suffer from the utilization of an abundant resource. In times of conservation concern, the Department can always close the fishery by Emergency Order.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? There is no other solution than allowing a harvest on these abundant resources.

PROPOSED BY: Douglas F. Bloom

(HQ-07F-064)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Matanuska Valley AC2

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 159 - 5 AAC 21.356. Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan.

Delete Cook Inlet Pink Salmon plan as follows:

Delete 5 AAC 21.356, Cook Inlet Pink Salmon Management Plan, in its entirety.

ISSUE: Exclusive/divisive fisheries.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the Board of Fisheries will continue to waste about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI with no benefit to any users in the long term.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of Cook Inlet salmon stocks without exclusive fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, this system worked for 50 years with great success until the BOF messed with these plans. The higher escapement goals will provide for in-river users without the waste experienced the last 12 years.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-224)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
Cooper Landing AC12
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 160 - 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Modify the Central District Gillnet Fishery Management plan to allow the area managers flexibility as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.353 to read as follows:

(a)(2)(A)(ii) **“during this time regular fishing periods may be restricted as necessary to move sockeye salmon north to meet the Northern District escapement goals”.**

(a)(2)(A)(ii) **“at all run strengths additional fishing periods may be granted in order to achieve the escapement goals of the Kasilof, Crescent or Kenai Rivers.**

(a)(2)(B) **“from July 16 until closed by emergency order.**
“at all run strengths into the Kenai additional fishing periods may be granted in order to achieve the escapement goals into the Kasilof, Crescent, Kenai Rivers and rivers in the Northern District.
“Chinitna Bay may be opened by emergency order only.

Delete [(a)(2)(C)]

ISSUE: The preseason forecast, which determines the amount of fishing time and window closures for the start of the commercial fishing season, has not been correct since these plans were implemented. Since 1999, the department forecast of Kenai run strength has not been in the same tier when the total return is completed. Management actions can be opposite of what is actually necessary. This is an issue for the department and the board. However, it shows that current plans may not be flexible enough.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Future application of inappropriate management plans concerning time and area.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Generally everyone, including commercial drift gill net fishermen, by removing unnecessary restrictions and providing flexibility to ADF&G managers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Whoever is benefited by having overlapping confusing regulations.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Total deletion of 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association

(HQ-07F-405)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Matanuska AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Sustina Valley AC11
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 161 - 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Repeal the Central District Drift Gillnet fishery management plans as follows:

Delete the current management plan, all of the fishing times and areas in this plan are contained in other existing regulations or can be handled by emergency orders.

ISSUE: This plan is very difficult to manage due to the three tiers, time and area restriction. In 1999 the three tiers were put in regulation. The preseason forecast, which determines the amount of fishing time and window closures for the start of commercial fishing, has not been correct since these plans were implemented. Since 1999, the department forecast of Kenai run strength has not been in the same tier when the total return is completed. Management actions can be opposite of what is actually necessary. This is an issue for the department and board. However, it shows that current plans may not be flexible enough.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued application of inappropriate management actions.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Provides flexibility to everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Drift fleet.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo - very restrictive and cause confusion with other management plans.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association (HQ-07F-406)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Matanuska Valley AC2 | Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45 | Matanuska Valley AC5 |
| Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9 | | Mt. Yenlo AC6 |
| Homer AC4 | | Anchorage AC9 |
| Central Peninsula AC8 | | Mat-Valley AC10 |
| KRSA PC27 | | Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41 |
| | | Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52 |

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 162 - 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Delete Central District Gillnet plan as follows:

Delete 5 AAC 21.353, Central District Drift Gillnet Plan, in its entirety.

ISSUE: The management of the commercial drift gillnet fishery with all the arbitrary fishing areas and seasons. The drift fishery should fish two regular periods in the Central District per week unless the department determines they should be fished differently. All these restrictions were put in place for the Yentna counter that is known to undercount sockeye. This technical glitch in the departments escapement program has been used a club to get a super allocation to the Northern District

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI with no benefit to any users in the long term.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of Cook Inlet salmon stocks.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, this system worked for 50 years with great success until the BOF messed with these plans. The higher escapement goals will provide for in-river users without the waste experienced the last 12 years.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-223)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Matanuska Valley AC5

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30

Mat-Valley AC10

KRSA PC27

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 163 - **5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan.** Amend the Central District drift gillnet fishery management plan as follows:

5 AAC 21.353. Delete all references to Drift Area 1 and 2. Maintain the established Kenai/Kasilof corridor with the corresponding dates and add a buffer zone from 60° 41.08 N lat. To the Northern District boundary at the forelands from July 16 through July 31 and anytime Northern District is closed in August for sockeye salmon concerns.

5 AAC 21.353 (a)(2)(A) from July 9 though July 15,

(i) fishing during the two regular fishing periods is restricted to the Kenai and Kasilof Sections [AND DRIFT GILLNET AREA 1]

(ii) at run strengths greater than 2,000,000...of the Upper Subdistrict [AND DRIFT GILLNET AREA 1]

5 AAC 21.353 (a)(2)(B) from July 16 though July 31,

(i) at run strengths of less than 2,000,000...of the Upper Subdistrict [AND DRIFT GILLNET AREA 1]

(ii) at run strengths of 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 ...of the Upper Subdistrict [AND DRIFT GILLNET AREA 1 AND 2].

(iii) at run strengths greater than 4,000,000...during regular fishing periods **except 5 AAC 21.353 (2)(A) remains in effect.**

(iv) Drift gillnet fishing is not allowed in the buffer zone from 60° 41.08 N lat. To the Northern District boundary at the foreland.

5 AAC 21.353 (a)(2) **from July 31 through August 10 drift gillnet fishing is not allowed in the buffer zone from 60° 41.08 N lat. To the Northern District boundary at the foreland anytime Northern District is closed for sockeye salmon concerns.**
(new Section (C)).

5 AAC 21.535 (a)(2) **(D)** [(C)] from August 11 until closed by emergency order...(old (C) becomes (D))

ISSUE: Drift Area 1 and Drift Area 2 in the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan expand fishing effort when Northern District bound stocks are known to be transiting the Central District while attempting to minimize over escapement into the Kenai/Kasilof sections. While the Central District drift fleet is a valuable component of the Central District commercial fishery it is neither necessary nor reliable as a tool to gauge run strength or to prevent over escapement. The only proven, effective tool the Department has is the Central District set net fleet.

Fishing the Central District drift fleet in Drift Area 1 and Drift Area 2 in early July focuses the fleet on mixed stocks at a time when Susitna-bound sockeye are present.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued over-exploitation of Northern District bound stocks with no apparent effect on the over escapement into the Kenai.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Bigger fish with less "net marking". More stability to the fishery upon which buyers can rely.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Northern District fishers and the resource.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Will affect fishing patters of Central District drift fleet.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Northern District Set Netters Association of Cook Inlet (HQ-07F-418)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Sustina Valley AC11
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 164 - 5 AAC 21.353(a)(2)(b). Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Clarify August fishing periods in the Central District as follows:

Amend the regulation to correct omission in direction for drift gillnet fisheries during August.

5 AAC 21.353(a)(2)(B) from July 16 through **August 10** [JULY 31]...

ISSUE: The Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan currently provides no direction for fishing periods from August 1 through August 10. The current text in (B) provides direction “from July 16 through July 31.” Part (C) provides direction “from August 11 until closed by emergency order.” This is an apparent oversight in language adopted in the previous UCI Board meeting.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? It is confusing whether fisheries during this period are: a) to be restricted to Kenai and Kasilof corridors or Drift Gillnet areas 1 and 2 based on run strength guidance as in the drift net plan; b) independent of area and run strength guidance as per general fishing seasons identified in 5 AAC 21.319(b)(3), or c) not authorized. This confusion leads to misunderstandings and false expectations by fishers and potentially subjective or allocation decisions by fishery managers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit from clear direction in management plans.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because it allows drift net fisheries in early August with potentially significant impacts on other stocks regardless of Kenai sockeye run strength.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-159)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

-

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 165 - 5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan. Reinstate sunset provision for directed Cook Inlet west side drift gillnet fishery as follows:

Sunset the provision for directed west side Cook Inlet driftnet fisheries after 2007 as per the current plan.

ISSUE: In a last minute amendment at the 2005 UCI BOF meeting, the Board revised the Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan to remove coho fishing time restrictions on the drift fleet during August in areas of the western inlet. This change was enacted through the 2007 season. This fishery does not make a significant contribution to UCI fishery values but can have significantly affect on local escapements and sport fisheries.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Local coho stocks can be overfished where fishing effort is unregulated. This change has also resulted in a significant reallocation of Westside coho from sport to commercial fisheries. There is no accurate means to evaluate the annual escapement of targeted west side coho stocks. While the Department can close this fishery by emergency order, it has no effective way to evaluate the fishery in-season.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sustainable west side coho escapements and in-river fishing opportunities.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A very limited number of commercial fishery participants for whom this fishery was designed to benefit.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-164)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC2
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Homer AC4
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 166 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management plan.
Amend the Kasilof River Salmon Management plan as follows:

Amend as follows:

- (a) This management plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvest them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries. **Achieving the established in-river escapement goal is the primary management objective.** Openings in the areas historically fished must be consistent with escapement objectives for Upper Cook Inlet salmon with the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.363.)
- (b) **In order to achieve** the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal, **the Kasilof River biological escapement goal of 150,000 - 250,000 sockeye salmon may increase by an additional 50,000 sockeye, if necessary, on forecasted Kenai River sockeye run strengths of less than 2 million, under an** optimal escapement goal of 150,000 - 300,000 sockeye salmon. (Note: per intent of the 2002 Board and is described in section (4)). Delete: [ACHIEVING]. [SHALL TAKE....THE KASILOF RIVER].
- (c) (2) Delete [FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE FISHING SEASON THROUGH JULY 7.]

Amend:

(c) (2) (A) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open additional fishing periods or extend regular fishing periods, in order **to achieve the Kasilof River sockeye escapement goal;** [TO A MAXIMUM OF 48 HOURS OF ADDITIONAL FISHING TIME PER WEEK]

(2) (B) Delete [THE FISHERY SHALL REMAIN CLOSED FOR AT LEAST CONTINUOUS 48-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK]

(c)(3) [BEGINNING JULY 8, THE SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE KASILOF SECTION WILL BE MANAGED AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.360. (c); IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISIONS OF 5 AAC 21.360 (c) The commissioner may, by emergency order limit fishing during the regular weekly periods and any extra fishing periods to those waters within one-half mile of shore **in the Kasilof Section in order to achieve the lower end of the Kenai River late-run sockeye escapement goal,** if the set gillnet fishery in the Kenai and East Forelands Sections are not open for the fishing period,

(4) [after July 15,] If the department determines that the Kenai River late-run sockeye run strength is projected to be less than two million fish and the 300,000 **upper range of the** optimal escapement goal for the Kasilof River sockeye salmon may be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open fishing for [an] additional [24-] hours per week in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore [and as specified in 5 AAC 21.360 (c)].

ISSUE: The department (ADF&G) fully acknowledged that two factors (window and established fishing time restrictions) have kept the department from being able to manage for the Kasilof River sockeye biological escapement goal.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Without direction from the board: a biologically allowable resource harvest will be continue to be precluded, large escapement events and over escapement will continue; fishery conflicts by the department’s recent and extensive use of the non-orderly Kasilof River Special Harvest Area will conflict with traditional commercial, personal-use, sport) fishing methods, means, times, and locations in the Kasilof Section intended for harvest, as intended by the Board; misuse of closed waters surrounding the terminus of Kasilof River intended for distribution of sockeye and Kasilof River late-run Chinook stocks; further risk to Kasilof River sockeye salmon caused by excessively large escapements will continue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, poor quality harvest of sockeye salmon in the Kasilof Special Harvest Area would be greatly reduced.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Traditional, historical fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The Kasilof River sockeye management plan objectives are also consistent with escapement objectives for Upper Cook Inlet salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Fisheries are not static; prescribed windows have proven to predetermine the department’s inability to meet escapement goal objectives. Weir in terminus; allocates fish from traditional fishery areas, methods, means, and locations.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association (HQ-07F-450)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Homer AC4
- Central Peninsula AC8
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

- Matanuska Valley
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Mat-Valley AC10
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
- KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 167 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Revise Kasilof River management plan as follows:

5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

(a) This management plan governs the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs within the Kasilof Special Harvest Area. It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically areas historically fished must be consistent with escapement objectives for upper Cook Inlet salmon and with the Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 21.363).

(b) [ACHIEVING THE LOWER END OF THE KENAI RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON ESCAPEMENT GOAL SHALL TAKE PRIORITY OVER NOT EXCEEDING THE UPPER END OF THE KASILOF RIVER OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL OF 150,000 TO 300,00 SOCKEYE SALMON.]

(c) [THE COMMERCIAL SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE KASILOF SECTION SHALL BE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS;

(1) FISHING WILL BE OPENED AS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 21.31-(B) (2) FOR REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320;

(2) FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE FISHING SEASON THROUGH JULY 7,

(A) THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, OPEN ADDITIONAL FISHING PERIODS OR EXTEND REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS TO A MAXIMUM OF 48 HOURS OF ADDITIONAL FISHING TIME PER WEEK UNLESS THE OEG WILL BE EXCEEDED THEN THIS PROVISION NO LONGER APPLIES;

(B) THE FISHERY SHALL REMAIN CLOSED FOR AT LEAST ONE CONTINUOUS 48-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK UNLESS THE OEG WILL BE EXCEEDED THEN THIS PROVISION NO LONGER APPLIES;

(3) BEGINNING JULY 8, THE SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE KASILOF SECTION WILL BE MANAGED AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.360(C); IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISIONS OF 5 AAC 21.360 (C), THE COMMISSSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, LIMIT FISHING DURING THE REGULAR WEEKLY PERIODS AND ANY EXTRA FISHING PERIODS TO THOSE WATERS WIHTIN ONE-HALF MILE OF SHORE, IF THE SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE KENAI AND EAST FORELANDS SECTIONS ARE NOT OPEN FOR THE FISHING PERIOD;

(4) AFTER JULY 15, THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON RUN STRENGTH IS PROJECTED TO BE LESS THAN TWO MILLION FISH AND THE 300,000 OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL FOR THE KASILOF RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON MAY BE EXCEEDED, THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, OPEN FISHING FOR AN ADDITIONAL 24-HOURS PER WEEK IN THE KASILOF SECTION WITHIN ONE-HALF MILE OF SHORE AND AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.360 (C).

(d) THE PERSONAL USE FISHERY WILL BE MANAGED AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 77.540 (B) AND (C).

(e) IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISIONS OF 5 ACC 56 APPLICABLE TO THE KASILOF RIVER, FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JULY 31, THE GUIDED SPORT FISHERY FOR EARLY-RUN AND LATE-RUN KASILOF RIVER KING SALMON WILL BE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) A FISHING GUIDE MAY NOT SPORT FISH WHILE CLIENT IS PRESENT OR IS WITHIN THE FISHING GUIDES CONTROL OR RESPONSIBILITY; NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTIONS, A GUIDE MAY PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO A CLIENT WITH A DISABILITY IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE CLIENT TO ENGAGE IN SPORT FISHING; IN THIS PARAGRAPH "DISABILITY" HAS THE MEANING GIVEN IN 42 U.S.C. 12102 (2) (A) AND (C), AS AMENDED AS OF FEBRUARY 8, 1994;
- (2) DURING ANY ONE DAY, A FISHING GUIDE MAY GUIDE ONLY THAT CLIENT OR GROUP OF CLIENTS INITIALLY GUIDED BY THE FISHING GUIDE THAT DAY; DIFFERENT OR ADDITIONAL CLIENTS MAY NOT BE GUIDED;
- (3) A VESSEL MAY NOT BE USED FOR GUIDED SPORT FISHING UNLESS, AT ALL TIMES, IT HAS ITS ADF&G REGISTRATION NUMBERS PLAINLY AND LEGIBLY DISPLAYED IN PERMANENT SYMBOLS AT LEAST SIX INCHES HIGH AND WITH LINES AT LEAST ONE INCH WIDE IN A COLOR THAT CONTRASTS WITH THE BACKGROUND ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE VESSEL.]

(f) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to the taking of salmon by gillnets when it is projected that the Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement will exceed 275,000 fish. **It is the intent of the board that this Special Harvest Area only be used as a last resort to achieve the escapement goal and not used instead of the traditional fishing times and areas.** The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within one and one-half miles of the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the river and waters open to set gillnetting under 5AAC 21.33-(b) (3) (C) (ii) and (b) (3) (C) (iii). The following apply within the special harvest area when it is open:

- (1) set gillnets may be operated only within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark;
 - (2) a set gillnet may not exceed 35 fathoms in length;
 - (3) drift gillnets may not be operated in waters within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark;
 - (4) no more than 50 fathoms of drift gillnet may be used to take salmon;
 - (5) a permit holder may not use more than one gillnet to take salmon at any one time;
 - (6) a person may not operate a gillnet outside the special harvest area when operating a gillnet in the special harvest area;
 - (7) there is no minimum distance between gear, except that a gillnet may not be set or operated within 600 feet of a set gillnet located outside of the special harvest area;
- and

(8) a vessel may not have more than 150 fathoms of drift gillnet or 105 fathoms of set gillnet on board,

(g) [FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION,

(1) "CLIENT" HAS THE MEANING GIVEN IN 5 AAC 75.995,

(2) "FISHING GUIDE" HAS THE MEANING GIVEN IN 5 AAC 75.995;

(3) "WEEK" MEANS A CALENDAR WEEK, A PERIOD OF SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS BEGINNING AT 12:01 A.M. SUNDAY AND ENDING AT 12:00 MIDNIGHT THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.]

ISSUE: The current Kasilof management plan is confusing the plan should be returned to what it said before the BOF recently messed with it and be used for the terminal area only.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the public will be unsure of what the overall goals and long term direction for the Kasilof River fisheries.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of UCI salmon stocks in a predictable and reasonable fashion. It eliminates a great deal of the language that has been confusing the department and all users for 12 years.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, making it clear what the goal of management is helps everyone.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-229)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4

Matanuska Valley AC5

Central Peninsula AC8

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Mt. Yenlo AC6

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Gary Hollier PC46
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 168 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

Modify the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan as follows:

- (a) [FOR UPPER COOK INLET SALMON AND WITH THE UPPER COOK INLET SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN (5 AAC21.363).]
- (b) delete
- (c) (2) (7) 15 (A) delete (B) delete
- (c) (3) [BEGINNING] after ...[8] 15 [THE SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE KASILOF SECTION WILL BE MANAGED AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.360(c); IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISIONS OF 5 AAC 360 (c)]
- (d) [300,000] 250,000 [OPTIMAL] Biological ...[24] ...[AND AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.360 (c)]
- (e) (1) (2) (3) delete
- (f) (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) DELETE
- (g) (1) (2) delete

ISSUE: Inoperable Plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? New and expanding fishery will continue. Historical fisheries will be decimated. Poor maximized utilization of fishery. Poor quality. Disorderly fishery. Violation of Sustainable Salmon Fisheries policies.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial Fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions.

PROPOSED BY: South K-Beach Independent Fishermen’s Alliance (HQ-07F-458)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
 Matanuska Valley AC5
 Mt. Yenlo AC6
 Anchorage AC9
 Mat-Valley AC10
 Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
 Gary Hollier PC46
 Gary Hollier PC46
 Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 169 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Increase OEG based on updated data in the Kasilof and modify fishing periods as follows:

1. Maintain recent large runs Kasilof sockeye salmon runs by increasing the OEG based on updated data showing large returns from high escapements.

(b)...the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal range of [150,000] 200,000 to [300,000] 350,000 sockeye salmon.

2. Increase the size of the Kasilof River Special Harvest area to provide an orderly commercial fishery and regulate Kasilof sockeye escapement where necessary in poor Kenai run years.

(f) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area to the taking of salmon by gillnets when it is projected that the Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapement will exceed [275,000 FISH] **the OEG**. The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within [ONE AND] one-half miles **of shore** [THE NAVIGATIONAL LIGHT LOCATED ON THE SOUTH BANK OF THE KASILOF RIVER], **in proportions of the Kasilof section south of a point one-half mile north of the north bank of the Kasilof River**, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the river[AND WATERS OPEN TO GILLNETTING UNDER 5 AAC 21.330 (b)(3)(c)(ii) and (b)(3)(c)(iii)].

3. Protect escapement of Kasilof king salmon and provide in-river sport and personal use opportunity in the face of intensive fisheries on large sockeye runs by use of commercial fishery windows.

(c)(2) from the beginning of the fishing season through July 7,

(B) the fishery shall be closed for at least one continuous 48-hour period per week **in order to provide for Chinook escapement and in-river fisheries.**

(c)(3) beginning July 8,...

(A) **the fishery in the Kasilof section, including the special harvest area, will be closed for not less than one continuous 36-hour period per week beginning between 7:00p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday and for an additional continuous 36-hour period per week, regardless of Kasilof sockeye run strength, in order to provide for Chinook escapement and in-river fisheries. Kasilof window closures shall be concurrent with Kenai window closures when Kenai closures are in effect.**

(c)(4) after July 15,...

(A) **the fishery in the Kasilof section, including the special harvest area, will be closed for not less than one continuous 36-hour period per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday and for an additional continuous 36-hour period per week, regardless of Kasilof sockeye run strength, in order to provide for Chinook escapement and in-river fisheries. Kasilof window closures shall be concurrent with Kenai window closures when Kenai closures are in effect.**

4. Provide for an orderly end of season closure of the Kasilof area set net fishery after the Kasilof sockeye run has passed in order to provide appropriate opportunity to Kenai area setnet and in-river fisheries.

(c)(5) Close Kasilof area set net fisheries after August 1, except when the Kasilof or Kenai OEGs are projected to be exceeded. In that case, close Kasilof sections as per 5 AAC 31.310(b).

ISSUE: The Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan needs to be revised to accommodate issues arising from an increasing trend in Kasilof sockeye in recent years. The terminal fishing area does not provide for a traditional and orderly commercial fishery in years of big Kasilof run years when the Kasilof section is restricted to protect a weak Kenai run. Intensive commercial sockeye fisheries on recent large runs have also eliminated significant in-river sportfishing opportunities for Chinook and are likely to overfish Kasilof Chinook to below sustained yield or maximum sustained yield levels. Chinook escapement data is inadequate to develop escapement goals necessary for direct regulations of fisheries and so indirect protection measures such as fishery windows are necessary. Further, intensive commercial fisheries in the terminal area have eliminated significant personal use fishery opportunity in the Kasilof. Finally, the current sockeye OEG also does not provide adequate protection for large escapements needed to ensure continuing large runs and requires adjustments.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Problems will continue to fester in the terminal fishing area. Intensive commercial fisheries in large Kasilof run years will allocate most of the Kasilof Chinook harvest to the commercial fisheries largely eliminating meaningful in-river fishery opportunity in the Kasilof. Future Kasilof runs and yield will decline if escapements are not protected.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Fish quality problems in the commercial harvest caused by overuse of the current special harvest area will be avoided.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit from proposed changes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Costs and benefits are balanced among fishery sectors.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected due to recognized issues with the existing plan.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-156)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 170 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Open South Kenai Beach district whenever necessary to harvest in the Kasilof terminal area as follows:

New subsection would open the South K-Beach District (244-10) whenever it is necessary to harvest in the Kasilof Terminal area, using restrictions to area to minimize interception of Kenai bound stocks.

ISSUE: Inequitable Fishery

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Management plan will continue to subvert Kasilof historical fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? South K-beach fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those fishermen who have not normally targeted historically on the Kasilof run.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions.

PROPOSED BY: South K-Beach Independent Fishermen’s Alliance (HQ-07F-460)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Gary Hollier PC46
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 171 - 5 AAC 21.365(e). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

Move guided sport fishing regulations out of commercial fishing regulations as follows:

Move regulations out of commercial regulations in (e) and into sport guided regulations in sport fish regulations on the Kenai Peninsula.

ISSUE: Guided sport fish regulations in commercial salmon fishing regulations

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guided sport regulations not in guided Sport regulations where regulations should be available to guided sport operators on the Kasilof River and general public.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? General public in publication of regulations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Not available.

PROPOSED BY: Jeff Beaudoin

(HQ-07F-129)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Matanuska Valley AC5
Mat-Valley AC10

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 172 - 5 AAC 21.365(f). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Specify use of Kasilof River Special Harvest Area as follows:

Insert the Board's intent at that time (1986) when it was described "to be rarely, if ever used"

- (f) **It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area be rarely used. Before opening the terminal fishing area, the Department shall first exhaust all other means available, including a reduction in mandatory closed weekly fishing periods in the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery and a reduction in the number of weekly emergency order restrictions in the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery. The Kasilof Section may be reduced to within one-half mile of shore for regular and extra fishing periods in order to achieve the lower end of the Kenai River late-run sockeye escapement goal. If, after all measures have been exhausted, the Kasilof River sockeye escapement estimates 200,000 sockeye, the Department may utilize the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area on or after July 17, if the the Department projects exceeding 275,000 sockeye in escapement.**

ISSUE: Use of the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA). The KRSHA precludes harvest in the traditional fisheries that have historically harvested sockeye salmon excess to spawning escapement needs.

Continued use was neither considered, not intended by the Board of Fisheries. Major historical harvest reallocation occurred in 2006 emergency opening in the KRSHA, with 33 percent of the entire Upper Cook Inlet harvest occurring in the terminal area.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Department acknowledges that continued use of the terminal area will be direct conflict with the written intent of the Board of Fisheries. "It is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries."

The KRSHA is not an orderly fishery; creates intense user and gear conflicts, reallocates fishery resources from the historical fisheries.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Poor quality sockeye salmon harvested in KRSHA reduced; marketing of UCI sockeye based on quality harvest will only improve Alaska sockeye salmon reputation; regional branding, quality seafood programs will not be harmed further.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Traditional fisheries (commercial, personal use, sport fishery); particularly historical fishing family operations (generations) that have relied on Kasilof River sockeye salmon harvests for well over 50 years.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, beyond some within gear groups of the few individuals who recently consider reallocation of a fishery away from the traditional fishing areas or fisheries as a means to exploit a fishery resource situation, justification being ‘only remaining tool in the toolbox.’

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Delete fixed window management from regulatory framework in the Kasilof River sockeye management plan. This should be done, the KRSHA still needs to be addressed; conflict with the Board’s intent.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association (HQ-07F-453)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 173 - 5 AAC 21.365(f). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Limit use of Kasilof Special Harvest Area as follows:

The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area shall rarely be used, for a management emergency, and only concurrently used with the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery. The Kasilof Section may be reduced to one-half mile, if necessary, in order for the department to achieve the lower end of the Kenai River late-run sockeye escapement goal.

ISSUE: Using the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area. If it is the intent of the Board of Fisheries that Kasilof River salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvest them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries. In 2006 the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area’s statistical catch area reallocated three million pound of salmon away from the traditional Kasilof Section Fisheries.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued conflict with the intent of the Board. Continued reallocation away from traditional fisheries.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Fish harvested in the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area are notorious for lower quality. This solution allows for the quality of the resource harvested.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport, personal, and traditional commercial fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Complete removal of Kasilof River Special Harvest Area from use. But in extreme situations, after all effort has been made to harvest Kasilof sockeye in traditional fisheries, it may be needed.

PROPOSED BY: Joel Doner

(HQ-07F-118)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Gary Hollier PC46

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 174 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Eliminate Kasilof River Special Harvest Area as follows:

The complete elimination of the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area from the books.

ISSUE: The impact of the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) to several user groups of the Kasilof River sockeye salmon and the unconfirmed, yet probable, high impact of the currently unmanaged late-run Kasilof kings.

Currently preliminary estimates of run size for Kasilof late-run kings is 5-10,000 fish per sampling by ADF&G.

Over 2,500 kings were harvested in the KRSHA in 2006. This is in addition to the nearly 6,500 kings harvested in the traditional Kasilof section in 2006.

At one point in the 2006 usage of this fishery, exploitation rates on the Kasilof-bound sockeye were on excess of 95%. Because of the aggressive nature of this fishery, it is likely that exploitation rates on Kasilof-bound late-run king salmon were also extremely high.

It is unknown how many of these kings are of Kasilof-origin. However, observations by sports anglers and by ADF&G workers conducting test-netting on late run kings indicate that in-river returns were amongst the lowest in memory.

Sport fishing logbook data kept by sports fishing guides will confirm the belief that this poor showing of the fish in-river was due to the impact of the unprecedented netting schedules in the Kasilof section and the KRSHA over the past two years and NOT as a result of poor returns. Kasilof water conditions and catches are historically very consistent during this timeframe. In the timeframes where commercial nets finally came out of the water, sports catch rates, as well as test-netting success by ADF&G workers increased by many-times over; indicating that the netting and not poor returns were the probably cause of poor returns.

While utilized to help keep Kasilof sockeye numbers in check, the impact upon the late-run Kasilof kings may be felt for many years, not only in future cycles from 2006 escapement, but in the accuracy of collected data by ADF&G's efforts to determine the population, distribution, age-class, as well as needed escapement data & goal establishment.

With the elimination of hatchery-produced sockeye returns coming in future years, the need for this fishery will also be reduced.

It is time for this run of fish and the impact of all user groups upon it to be accurately assessed and management plan be full implemented for the long-term viability of the stock and the sustainability of the fishery for all associated user groups.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued over-exploitation of Kasilof late-run king salmon by the UCI commercial salmon fishery.

Failure to allow ADF&G to fully and accurately determine the status of this stock.

Collapse, of the small, yet financial critical sports fishery that helps keep many Kasilof area business afloat in a time when the crowds of the well-known, heavily utilized early-run Kasilof king fishery have left.

Anecdotal evidence suggests later timing of the Kasilof late-run king salmon in present day than in past years. Continued aggressive commercial fishing effort to keep sockeye escapements in check will only hasten this issue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Use of this fishery was a nightmare for many, and the resulting product quality of the commercial salmon fishery was negatively impacted. In ADF&G's 2006 UCI Commercial Salmon Season Report, it states that: "The aggressive use of this terminal harvest area impacted product quality, price, and "traditional' harvest areas and gear types to a degree that was not contemplated when this management plan was crafted".

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kasilof River late-run king salmon, sport anglers (of both guided & unguided categories), personal-use fishers targeting Kasilof River sockeye salmon, many commercial fishers that are forced to move into the KRSHA to have fishing time.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Possibly all Kasilof section commercial fishers that may see reduced sockeye harvests if harvest yield is not as high in future years as the result of possible increased Commercial escapements. Usage of this fishery was very unpopular with most UCI commercial fishers based upon testimony heard at meeting at Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association with the ADF&G Commissioner in July of 2006.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Regulated use of the fishery: rejected for the reasons of clear overuse by emergency order in 2006 and the unknown impact upon the king stocks.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-046)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 175 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Establish corridor or time limits on nets to increase number of kings entering the Kasilof River during July as follows:

Allow corridors or make time limits on nets to raise the number of kings entering the river nets should be manned and picked in a timely manner.

ISSUE: When the terminal area is open on the Kasilof during July the second run (native) of kings is getting wiped out. Also the commercial fishermen should have to be onsite to pick their nets not leave fish to sit in the mud and sun.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The second run of native kings will be wiped out. This fishery is in peril now. Also the wanton waste of fish by unattended nets will continue. Some nets sit out in the mud for hours after the tide has gone out.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, more kings in the river. Healthier resource. The fish caught in nets won't be laying out in the sun and mud for hours.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sportsfishermen, the overall health of the second run of kings, dipnetters, guides, businesses.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The set netters. The drift netters.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Do not allow any nets in the terminal area - too many sockeye will enter the river.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Craig (HQ-07F-462)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 176 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Modify Kasilof River late-run king salmon periods as follows:

Until which time a Kasilof late-run king salmon plan is fully implemented to assure that adequate numbers of kings are escaping, there must be at least two 24 hour windows per week in the Kasilof section of UCI by set gillnets and the KRSHA may not be fished by either drift or set gillnets during these closed fishing periods.

ISSUE: The impact of the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) and extremely high number of Emergency Orders opening all or part of the Kasilof Section of the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery to several user groups of Kasilof River sockeye salmon and the unconfirmed, yet probable, high impact of the currently unmanaged late-run Kasilof kings.

Current preliminary estimates of run size for Kasilof late-run kings is 5-10,000 fish per sampling by ADF&G.

Over 2,500 kings were harvested in the KRSHA in 2006. This is in addition to the nearly 6,500 kings harvested in the traditional Kasilof section in 2006.

Impact from drift gillnets outside of the KRSHA is minimal on Kasilof-bound late-run king salmon, although the same cannot be said for the impact of the gillnet fishery.

It is unknown how many of these kings are of Kasilof-origin. However, observations by sport anglers and by ADF&G workers conducting test-netting on late run kings indicate that in-river returns over the last two years were amongst the lowest in memory.

Sport fishing logbook data kept by sports fishing guides will confirm the belief that this poor showing of the fish in-river was due to the impact of the unprecedented netting schedules in the Kasilof section and the KRSHA over the past two years and NOT as a result of poor returns. Kasilof water conditions and catches are historically very consistent during this timeframe. In the timeframes where commercial nets finally came out of the water, sports catch rates, as well as test-netting success by ADF&G workers increased by many-times over; indicating that the netting and not poor returns were the probably cause of poor returns.

With the elimination of hatchery-produced sockeye returns coming in future years, the need for this fishery will also be reduced.

It is time for this run of fish and the impact of all user groups upon it to be accurately assessed and management plan be full implemented for the long-term viability of the stock and the sustainability of the fishery for all associated user groups. More conservative netting schedules will allow for late-run Kasilof king numbers to be closer to what many users to believe to be their historical norms.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Over exploitation and probable

under escapement of Kasilof River late-run king salmon.

Anecdotal evidence suggests later timing of the Kasilof late-run king salmon in present day than in past years. Continued aggressive commercial fishing effort to keep sockeye escapements in check will only hasten this issue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kasilof late-run king salmon, sports users of Kasilof River late-run kings, sports and personal use fishers of Kasilof River sockeye salmon. Area business that benefit from an announced window that will come for either sport or personal use.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Managers will have to keep better track of the Kasilof sockeye run to place additional fishing time when the larger pushes of fish hit the beaches. Commercial fishers may see lower catches and slightly less yield form sockeye returns, but more consistent kings run will help offset the decrease in sockeye yield.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Timing of the Kasilof section closures does not have to correspond to commercial fishing closures in the Kenai/East Forelands section.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-048)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 177 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Direct department to manage the Kasilof River sockeye salmon primarily for commercial uses as follows:

5 AAC 21.365 Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan

- (a) **The department shall manage the Kasilof River sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance.**
- (b) **meet a spawning escapement goal range of 150,000 to 250,000 sockeye salmon.**

ISSUE: Simplify the Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan to allow the local management biologist to manage for the spawning escapement goals. The current plan does not work and grossly over escapes the Kasilof basically every year, whether the run is large or small. Great economic harm is inflicted to the users. A large part of the harvestable surplus is wasted.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Kasilof will continue to over escape. Harvestable surpluses will be lost. Economic harm will continue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This allows harvest to be spread more evenly over the entire run. Harvest will be on fresher salmon further away for the river and contain a higher oil content.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users, the resource, the managers, the local economies by harvesting the surplus an maintaining future high returns from managing biologically for maximum sustained yields.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The resource is healthy and not being fully utilized.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. No other solution will solve the problems.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-443)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Gary Hollier PC46
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 178 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Modify OEG for Kasilof River sockeye as follows:

The sockeye salmon optimal escapement goal (OEG) measured at the Kasilof River sonar site located at river mile 11 is 175,000 [150,000] to 350,000 [300,000] fish.

ISSUE: The impact of the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area (KRSHA) and extremely high number of Emergency Orders opening all or part of the Kasilof Section of the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery to several user groups of Kasilof River sockeye salmon and the unconfirmed, yet probable, high impact of the currently unmanaged late-run Kasilof kings.

Current preliminary estimates of run size for Kasilof late-run kings is 5-10,000 fish per sampling by ADF&G.

Over 2,5000 kings were harvested in the KRSHA in 2006. This is in addition to the nearly 6,500 kings harvested in the traditional Kasilof section in 2006. Fishing time in these areas in 2005 approached all-time highs.

Impact from drift gillnets outside the KRSHA is minimal on Kasilof-bound late-run king salmon, although the same cannot be said for the impact of the set gillnet fishery.

It is unknown how many of these kings are Kasilof-origin. However, observations by sports anglers and by ADF&G workers conducting test-netting on late run kings indicate that in-river returns over the last two years were amongst the lowest in memory.

Sport fishing logbook data kept by sports fishing guides will confirm the belief that this poor showing of the fish in-river was due to the impact of the unprecedented netting schedule in the Kasilof section and the KRSHA over the past two years and not as a result of poor returns. Kasilof water conditions and catches are historically very consistent during this timeframe. In the timeframes where commercial nets finally came out of the water, sports catch rates, as well as test-netting success by ADF&G workers increased by many-times over; indicating that the netting and not poor returns were the probably cause of poor in-river showing of Kasilof River late-run kings.

With the elimination of hatchery-produced sockeye returns coming in future years, the need for this fishery will also be reduced.

It is time for this run of fish and the impact of all user groups upon it to be accurately assessed and a management plan be full implemented for the long term viability of the stock and the sustainability of the fishery for all associated user groups. More conservative netting schedules will allow for late-run Kasilof king numbers to be closer to what many users to believe to be their historical norms.

In addition, there is no BEG/OEG in place for the Kasilof silver salmon run. Late season efforts to keep sockeye escapements at current levels impact the early portion of the

Kasilof silver salmon run as well.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Over-exploitation and probable under escapement of Kasilof River late-run king salmon.

Anecdotal evidence suggests later timing of the Kasilof late-run king salmon in present day than in past years. Continued aggressive commercial fishing effort to keep sockeye escapements in check will only hasten this issue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kasilof late-run king salmon, sports users of Kasilof River late-run kings, sports and personal use fishers of Kasilof River sockeye salmon. Area businesses that benefit from additional silver, late-run king, and silver salmon in the Kasilof River and the associated effort to fish either via sport or personal use for them.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial fishers may see lower catches and slightly less yield from sockeye catches, but historical data indicates that most returns will not vary greatly under escapements in this range.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No changes: continued overharvest of Kasilof River late-run king salmon by the UI commercial salmon fishery. ADF&G records indicate that Kasilof River sockeye salmon escapements in the proposed ranges have not seen poor returns in subsequent years.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-045)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 179 - 5 AAC 21.365(b). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Increase Kasilof River OEG as follows:

Change the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal to 200,000 to 350,000 [150,000 to 300,000] sockeye salmon.

ISSUE: Kasilof River optimal escapement goal (OEG) is too low. For the last two decades the majority of the years the OEG has been exceeded. Good returns from a higher OEG occur in the system. The system can take 50,000 more sockeyes in river.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Commercial fishermen will get extra fishing time to try to keep the run in the mandated OEG.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? More sockeye would be put into the Kasilof River over the season for in-river users to harvest.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? In-river users, personal use, dip-net and sportfishing.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial fisherman.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Jim McKenzie (HQ-07F-082)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 180 - 5 AAC 21.365 (b). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

Repeal the Kasilof Salmon Management plan as follows:

Repeal 5 AAC 21.365 (b) [KASILOF SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN]

ISSUE: Overview: In order to revitalize the commercial salmon fishery, to provide for stable and predictable fishery based on principles and to promote higher quality seafood products, we need the regulatory changes contained in this proposal to be made by the Board of Fisheries. Requiring the attainment of the lower end of the Kenai River sockeye salmon escapement goal to take priority over not exceeding the upper end of the Kasilof River optimal escapement goal of 150,000 to 300,000 places a cumbersome and unnecessary complication on fishery managers in Upper Cook Inlet. Why sacrifice harvests to achieving the Kenai goals? This is not a real problem. Let the area management biologist manage for the escapement goals in both rivers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The public will continue to have different expectations concerning the management actions to be taken by ADF&G staff which are in conflict in these plans and increased public dissatisfaction by the public with ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries. The wrong management actions will be applied because the returns have not been in the tier as forecasted.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Many of these regulation changes are directed at improving quality. The increased flexibility of ADF&G to meet escapement goals should increase quality by removing artificial and unnecessary limitations on fishing areas and times that creates a concentrated fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit with this regulation since it will be clear that the Board of Fish intends to manage the resource for escapement goals. The commercial fishing industry will benefit as well as the drift gillnet fleet.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one should suffer. These regulatory changes do not alter the allocation of the resource between users and the escapement goals. The entry of salmon into the system is already controlled by ADF&G managers to achieve biological objectives relative to harvesting equally over the entire run. These proposals do nothing to the Departments emergency order authority to modify fishing times or areas. The escapement objectives for all systems are maintained so there should be no impact on in-river users. There will be a lost harvest to set gill net fisherman who target Kenai and Kasilof sockeye stocks. However, this should not result in an upsetting of the historical harvest pattern. Other salmon stocks have not entered Cook Inlet in large numbers during this time frame so harvest of coho salmon should remain low.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Concerning managing for escapement goals there are no other alternatives. If limitations on time and area are left in place the conflict over which takes priority escapement goals or time and area restrictions will continue.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association

(HQ-07F-401)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Gary Hollier PC46
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 181 - 5 AAC 21.365(f),(3). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

Increase area for set gillnet use and reduce area for drift gillnet use as follows:

(f)(1) set gillnets may be operated only within **1,200 feet** [600 feet] of the mean high tide mark;

(f)(3) drift gillnets may not be operated in waters within **1,200 feet** [600 feet] of the mean high tide mark.

ISSUE: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association opposes the use of the Kasilof Special Harvest Area, but an inequity of area for the gear types exists in the Terminal Harvest Area.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Set netters will be limited to 600 feet (which is usually at least partly dry), while drift fishers have 8,520 feet.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No. Fish harvested in the terminal area have a reputation for poor quality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set netters who fish close by the Kasilof terminal area (closed waters).

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Drifters who operate smaller boats. Drifters who use skiffs inshore.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Allocation of surplus harvest away from the traditional fisheries is a serious concern. We oppose any measure to undermine traditional fisheries in the Kasilof Section.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association (HQ-07F-452)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Saray Pellegrom PC21
- Dennis Effenbeck PC22
- Carrie Norman PC23
- Abe Pellegrom PC24
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
- Gary Hollier PC46

- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Mat-Valley AC10
- KRSA PC27

- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Central Peninsula AC8
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 182 - 5 AAC 21.365(c)(4). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Amend Kasilof River plan to limit Kenai River sockeye harvest as follows:

(4) after July 15, if the department determines... the Kasilof River sockeye salmon may be needed, the commissioner may, by emergency order,

(A) open fishing for an additional 24-hours per week in the Kasilof Section within one-half mile of shore and as specified in 5 AAC 21.360 (c) or;

(B) if the fishery managers determine too many Kenai sockeye are being harvested within one-half mile, the commissioner may limit setnets to 600 feet from shore.

ISSUE: Future inability of the Kenai River to meet minimum escapement goals for sockeye. This assumption is based on Skilak Lake fry-to-smolt survival data.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Commercial fishing will be closed an opportunities to harvest Kasilof River sockeye will be lost.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allows for a tiny harvest in traditional areas, where quality can be maintained; as opposed to harvests in the “terminal” area where quality is poor because of fresh water marking, mud, intense competition, and separation from tote-lifting equipment and ice storage.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Setnetters in the Kasilof Section who have near-shore nets. Old-timers often have these nets.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Measuring the 600 feet from the edge of the water instead of from MHW. Rejected because it would be more difficult to enforce.

PROPOSED BY: Brent Johnson

(HQ-07F-182)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
KRSA PC27

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 183 - 5 AAC 21.365(f)(5). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

Limit gillnetters to one half mile from shore as follows:

5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

(f)(5) Drift gillnets may be limited to one-half mile from shore if the fishery managers determine that Kenai River stocks need additional protection.

ISSUE: Catching Kenai River sockeye in the Kasilof "terminal" area.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Kenai River sockeye escapement minimum goal will not be achieved.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, the quality will get worse as the harvest areas move toward the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Drifters with skiffs. Processors, who will get a trickle of poor-quality fish instead of no fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial fishers who haven't the stomach to fish it.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Turning the "inner terminal" area into about 50 setnet sites awarded to drift and setnet fishers by lottery. Rejected because the idea made me seasick.

PROPOSED BY: Brent Johnson

(HQ-07F-181)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 184 - 5 AAC 21.365(f)(1),(3). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Change area for set and drift gillnet use for Kasilof River as follows:

Set netters should be allowed to fish 3000 feet from shore. This is approximately 1/3 of the available area in the terminal fishery.

(f)(1) Set gillnets may be operated only with in 3,000 [600] feet of the mean high tide mark.

(f)(3) drift gillnets may not be operated in waters within 3,000 [600] feet of the mean high tide mark.

ISSUE: The Kasilof Special Harvest Area (terminal fishery), is a valuable tool that can be used by ADF&G. It can be used by ADF&G to protect Kenai River sockeye salmon stocks in a year when the Kenai River has a low return and might not make its minimum escapement goal. It can also be used to harvest sockeye to the Kasilof River when ADF&G can project the Kasilof River sockeye escapement will exceed 275,000 fish.

In the terminal area set netters have less than 10 percent of the area. Set netters can only fish 600 feet from the mean high tide. Drift fishermen may operate out to 1 1/2 miles from the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, over 9,000 feet. This inequity in fishing area between set netters and drifters should be examined.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If this problem is not solved set netters will continue to be limited to fishing 600 feet from mean high tide. Drifters will continue to have over 90 percent of the fishing area, out to over 9,000 feet from shore.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set netters who fish in the terminal harvest area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Drift fishermen who fish in the terminal harvest area.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Let set netters fish out to 1,200 feet from mean high tide, but I rejected this as it is still not a equitable portion of the terminal area available for set netters.

PROPOSED BY: Gary Hollier

(HQ-07F-104)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
KRSA PC27

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 185 - 5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.
Expand Kasilof River special harvest area as follows:

(f) The Kasilof River Special Harvest Area is defined as those waters within one and one-half miles of the navigational light located on the south bank of the Kasilof River, excluding waters of the Kasilof River upstream of ADF&G regulatory markers located near the terminus of the river **and in that portion of the Kasilof Section within 1/2 mile of the mean high tide mark on the Kenai Peninsula shoreline** [AND WATERS OPEN TO SET GILLNETTING UNDER 5 AAC 21.330(B)(3)(C)(II) AND (B)(3)(C)(III).] The following apply within the special harvest area when it is open.

ISSUE: Include the area within 1/2 mile of shore in the Kasilof Section the legal description of the terminal area.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The terminal area will continue to be used in a way counter to it's stated purpose.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes and it also meets the primary objective of harvesting in the traditional areas

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody, these are fish surplus to escapement needs.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Chuck Smith

(HQ-07F-242)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
KRSA PC27

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Gary Hollier PC46

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 186 - 5 AAC 21.365(f)(1),(3). Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan. Change area for set and drift gillnet use for Kasilof River as follows:

5 AAC 21.365. Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan.

(f)(1) set gillnets may be operated in waters only within 1,200 [600] feet of the mean high tide mark;

(f)(3) drift gillnets may be operated in waters only within 1,200 [600] feet of the mean high tide mark.

ISSUE: Three tiered abundance based management for the Kenai River with its mandatory windows and lack of Emergency Order Authority for ADF&G, has tied the Dept. of Fish & Games hands. With the lack of flexibility, due to management plans. ADF&G is unable to stay within the goals set by the Board of Fish for the Kasilof River. This has led to use of the Kasilof Special Harvest area (terminal fishery). In the terminal area set netters can only fish 600 ft. from mean high tide (MHT). Drift fishermen can fish over 9,000 ft. from MHT. This inequity in fishing areas between set netters and drifters should be addressed.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Set netters will continued to be limited to 600 ft. from MHT. During some tide cycles this area is dry for half the time. Drifters will have over 9000 ft. to fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No, not a quality issue.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Set netters who fish in the terminal area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Drifters who fish in the terminal area.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered asking the BOF for half the area for set netters in the terminal area, but I did not think the BOF would make that big of change.

PROPOSED BY: Sarah Pellegrom

(HQ-07F-099)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 187 - 5 AAC 21.360 (b)(1), (c). Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Direct the Kenai River late run sockeye salmon management plan to be abundance based for all user groups as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.360 to read as follows:

(a)The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial users based on abundance. **The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, late-run Kenai River king, and Kenai River coho salmon stocks in order to provide personal use, sport and guided fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.**

(b)(1) meet a spawning escapement goal [OPTIMUM (OEG)] range of **400,000 - 700,000** [500,000 - 1,000,000] late-run sockeye salmon.

(b)(3) distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly within the spawning escapement goal [(OEG)] range in proportion to the size of the run.

(c) based on preseason and in-season forecasts prior to July 25 the fishing season, the run will be managed as follows:

(1) at run strengths of less than 3,000,000 sockeye salmon

(A) The department shall manage for an in-river goal range of 400,000 - 700,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) The sport fishery below the sonar counter will be allocated up to 75,000 sockeye salmon; and

(C) The sport fishery above the sonar counter will be allocated up to 75,000 sockeye salmon; and

(D) The personal use dip net fishery will be allowed to harvest one half the salmon per member of household limit in additional to the normal bag and possession limit; and

(2) At run strengths of greater than 3,000,000 sockeye salmon

(A) The department shall manage for an in-river goal range of 400,000 - 700,000 salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) The sport fishery below the sonar counter will be allocated up to 100,000 sockeye salmon; and

(C) The sport fishery above the sonar counter will be allocated up to 100,000 sockeye salmon and

(D) The personal use dip net fishery will be allowed to harvest the full per head of household bag and possession limit.

ISSUE: There needs to be revisions to the sockeye escapement descriptions for the Kenai River. What is proposed is a single escapement goal that historically existed, and a single in-river goal that includes an allocation for sport fishermen above and below the

sonar counter at river mile 19. Then this will allow for the removal of the current OEG that confuses the management of Kenai River Sockeye Salmon.

Directs all user groups and harvests to be abundance based.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The public will continue to have different expectations concerning the management actions to be taken by ADF&G staff which are in conflict in these plans and increased public dissatisfaction by the public with ADF&G and the Board of Fisheries.

Quality of product in Cook Inlet will not improve and the drift gill net fleet will continue to suffer loss market share as a result of economic limitations.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? In lieu of late season, less-efficient terminal sockeye fisheries - this proposal would allow the drift fleet to harvest surpluses of sockeye when sockeye are at their highest quality during mid season.

Lastly, allowing the drift fleet to fish historical periods outside the Kenai and Kasilof sections provides product to the processors that is higher quality than fish captured latter in the season when they move toward their rivers of origin. It also allows for an orderly harvest of product during large return years of sockeye salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit with this regulation since it will be clear that the Board of Fish intents to manage the resource for escapement goals and abundance.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one should suffer. Those regulatory changes do not alter the allocation of the resource between users and the escapement goals. The entry of salmon into the system is already controlled by ADF&G managers to achieve biological objectives relative to harvesting equally over the entire run.

These proposals do nothing to the Departments emergency order authority to modify fishing times or areas.

The escapement objectives for all systems are maintained so there should be no impact on in-river users.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Concerning managing for escapement goals there are no other alternatives.

PROPOSED BY: United Cook Inlet Drift Association

(HQ-07F-385)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC1
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
Cooper Landing AC12
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc.
PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 188 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify management plan for Kenai River late run sockeye salmon as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 21.360 as follows:

1. (a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on the abundance. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO, LATE-RUN KENAI River KING AND KENAI River COHO SALMON STOCKS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PERSONAL USE, SPORT AND GUIDED FISHERMEN WITH A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON RESOURCES.]

(b)(1) meet a spawning escapement goal [(OEG)] range of **400,000-700,000** [500,000-1,000,000] late-run sockeye salmon.

(b)(3) distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly within the spawning escapement goal [OEG] range, in proportion to the size of the run.

(c) based on preseason and in-season forecasts prior to July 25 the fishing season, the run will be managed as follows:

(1) at run strengths of less than 3,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) The department shall manage for an in-river goal range of 400,000 - 700,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 10; and

(B) The sport fishery below the sonar counter will be allocated up to 50,000 sockeye salmon; and

(C) The sport fishery above the sonar counter will be allocated up to 50,000 sockeye salmon; and

(D) The personal use dip net fishery will be allowed to harvest one half the salmon per member of household limit in addition to the normal household bag and possession limit; and

(2) At run strengths greater than 3,000,000 sockeye salmon,

(A) The department shall manage for an in-river goal of 400,000 - 700,000 salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and

(B) The sport fishery below the sonar counter will be allocated up to 100,000 sockeye salmon; and

(C) The sport fishery above the sonar counter will be allocated up to 100,000 sockeye salmon; and

(D) The personal use dip net fishery will be allowed to harvest the full per head of household bag and possession limit.

ISSUE: Lack of clarity and coordination in this plan and with other Upper Cook Inlet salmon management plans.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued confusion as to what the BOF intended to happen.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Provides clarity for all users.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Not sure.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Deleting all references to tiers. Have not rejected the possibility of removing all references to tiers.

PROPOSED BY: Wesley J. Humbyrd

(HQ-07F-381)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC1

Cooper Landing AC12
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters
Assoc. PC39

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 189 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify the Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Management Plan escapement goals as follows:

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.

(a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses [BASED ON ABUNDANCE]. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho. Late run Kenai River king, and Kenai river coho salmon stocks in order to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.

(b) The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries shall be managed to

(1) meet **the sustainable escapement goal** [AN OPTIMUM ESCAPEMENT GOAL (OEG)] range of 500,000 ~~-800,000~~ [1,000,000] late-run sockeye salmon as follows:

(2) **The sport fishery below river-mile 19 and the personal use and commercial fisheries shall be managed to** achieve an in-river **sonar goal of 600,000 to 900,000 sockeye** [AS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD AND MEASURED] past the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19; and

(3) **The sport fishery above river-mile 19 shall be managed to achieve a final escapement of 500,000 to 800,000 late-run sockeye salmon** [DISTRIBUTE THE ESCAPEMENT OF SOCKEYE SALMON EVENLY WITHIN THE OEG RANGE, IN PROPORTION TO THE SIZE OF THE RUN].

[(c) BASED ON PRESEASON FORESCASTS AND INSEASON EVALUATIONS OF THE TOTAL KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON RETURN DURING THE FISHING SEASON, THE RUN WILL BE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS:

(1) AT RUN STRENGTHS FO LESS THAN 2,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 650,000 - 850,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND

(B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, AT WHICH TIME THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 24-0HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;

(2) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF 2,000,000 TO 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 750,000 - 950,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND

(B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANGEMENT PLANAS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION OF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 51-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;

(C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY AND FOR AN ADDITIONAL 24-HOUR PERIOD DURING THE SAME MANAGEMENT WEEK;

(3) AT RUN STRENGTHS GREATER THAN 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON;

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 650,000 - 1,200,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND

(B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS FO OTHER MANGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 84-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5AAC21.365;

(C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK, BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY.

(D) THE SONAR COUNT LEVELS ESTABLISHED THIS SECTION MAY BE LOWERED BY THE BOARD IF NONCOMMERCIAL FISHING, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF MITIGATION EFFORTS, RESULTS IN A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT ON THE KENAI RIVER. THE DEPARTMENT WILL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, CONDUCT HABITAT ASSESSMENTS ON A SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES (BOARD) TREINNIAL MEETING CYCLE, IF THE ASSESSMENT DEMONSTRATE A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT CAUSED BY NONCOMMERCIAL FISHERMEN, THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO REPORT THOSE FINDINGS TO

THE BOARD AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE BOARD FOR APPROPRIATE MODIFICAITON OF THE KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON INRIVER GOAL.]

(e) Repealed.

(f) Repealed.

(g) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end **of the in-river sonar goal in (1)** [OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL], the department shall provide for a personal use dip net fishery in the lower Kenai River as specified in 5 AAC 77.540.

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the **sustainable** [OPTIMAL] escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADGF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

(1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and

(2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the **final escapement will exceed the upper end of the escapement goal range of 800,000 late-run sockeye salmon** [ABUNDANCE OF LATE-RUN SOCKEYE EXCEEDS TWO MILLION SALMON], at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the **daily** bag and possession limit to six sockeye salmon.

[(I) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, “WEEK” MEANS A CALENDAR WEEK, A PERIOD OF TIME BEGINNING AT 12:00:01 A.M. SAUNDAY AND ENDING AT 12:00 MIDNIGHT THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.]

ISSUE: Management of the commercial, sport and personal use fisheries to meet the escapement goals for Kenai River and also delete the abundance based goals and other confusing elements of this plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued loss by management (resource wasted) on 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI; increased risk on sockeye salmon production and yield.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allows for the orderly harvest of Kenai River sockeye in a predictable and reasonable fashion and maintains the resource. It eliminates a great deal of the language that has been confusing the department and all users for 6 years.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for Kenai River sockeye salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, managing for reasonable, clearly defined escapement goals has been the one success the department has been claiming for years in its attempt to clarify regulatory understanding among users.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Abundance-based tiers have been tried and failed to protect, maintain, or develop the resource over the last several years.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Peninsula Fishermen’s Association

(HQ-07F-444)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

Gary Hollier PC46

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 190 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify Kenai River salmon escapement goals as follows:

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.

- (a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses. [BASED ON ABUNDANCE.] The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, late-run Kenai River king, and Kenai River coho salmon stocks in order to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.
- (b) The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries shall be managed to **meet the Sustainable escapement goal** [AN OPTIMUM ESCAPEMENT GOAL (OEG)] range of 500,000 - **800,000** late-run sockeye salmon as follows;
 - (2) **The sport fishery below river-mile 19 and the personal use and commercial fisheries shall be managed to** achieve an in-river **sonar goal of 600,000 to 900,000 sockeye** [AS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD AND MEASURED] PAST THE Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19; and
 - (3) **The sport fishery above river-mile 19 shall be managed to achieve a final escapement of 500,000 to 800,000 late-run sockeye salmon** [distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly within the OEG range, in proportion to the size of the run.]

[(C) BASED ON PRESEASON FORECASTS AND INSEASON EVALUATIONS OF THE TOTAL KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON RETURN DURING THE FISHING SEASON, THE RUN WILL BE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF LESS THAN 2,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON
 - (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 650,000 - 850,000 SOCKEY ESALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND
 - (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN F AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INREIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, AT WHICH TIME THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 24-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5AAC 21.365;
- (2) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF 2,000,000 TO 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,
 - (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 750,000 TO 950,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND

- (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION OF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 51-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;
 - (C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY AND FOR AN ADDITIONAL 24-HOUR PERIOD DURING THE SAME MANAGEMENT WEEK;
- (3) AT RUN STRENGTHS GREATER THAN 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON
- (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 850,000 - 1,100,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND
 - (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION FOF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 84-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;
 - (C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK, BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY.
- (D) THE SONAR COUNT LEVELS ESTABLISHED THIS SECTION MAY BE LOWERED BY THE BOARD IF NONCOMMERCIAL FISHING, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF MITIGATION EFFORTS, RESULTS IN A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT ON THE KENAI RIVER. THE DEPARTMENT WILL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, CONDUCT HABITAT ASSESSMENTS ON A SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES (BOARD) TRIENNIAL MEETING CYCLE. IF THE ASSESSMENTS DEMONSTRATE A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT CAUSED BY NONCOMMERCIAL FISHERMEN, THE DEPARMTENT IS REQUESTED TO REPORT THOSE FINDING TO THE BOARD AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE BOARD FOR APPROPRIATE MODIFICATION OF THE KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON

INRIVER GOAL.]

(e) Repealed.

(f) Repealed.

(g) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end **of the in-river sonar goal in (1)** [OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL], the department shall provide for a personal use dip net fishery in the lower Kenai River as specified in 5AAC 77.540.

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the **sustainable** [OPTIMAL] escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream as follows:

(1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and

(2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the [ABUNDANCE OF LATE-RUN SOCKEYE WILL EXCEED] **final escapement will exceed the upper end of the escapement goal range of 800,000 late-run sockeye salmon** [UPPER END OF THE EXCEEDS TWO MILLION SALMON], at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the **daily** bag and possession limit to six sockeye salmon.

[(I) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, “WEEK” MEANS A CALENDAR WEEK, A PERIOD OF TIME BEGINNING AT 12:00:01 A.M. SUNDAY AND ENDING AT 12:00 MIDNIGHT THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.]

ISSUE: Management of the commercial port and personal use fisheries to meet the escapement goals for Kenai River and also delete the abundance based goals and other confusing elements of this plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it allow for the orderly harvest of Kenai River sockeye in a predictable and reasonable fashion. It eliminates a great deal of the language that has been confusing the department and all users for 6 years.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for Kenai River sockeye salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, managing for reasonable escapement goals has been the one success the department has been bragging about for years.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Everything else has already been tried and failed.

PROPOSED BY: Gary Hollier

(HQ-07F-092)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Anchorage AC9

Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 191 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Salmon Late-Run Sockeye Management Plan. Delete portions of Kenai River salmon late-run sockeye plans as follows:

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Salmon Late-Run Sockeye Management Plan.

(a) The purpose of this plan is to guide the department in the management of the Kenai River sockeye stocks and provide the fishing public with an expected framework of how the fishery will be conducted so they know what to expect. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE THE KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON STOCKS PRIMARILY FOR COMMERCIAL USES BASED ON ABUNDANCE. THE IN-RIVER SONAR GOAL FOR EACH RUN STRENGTH SHALL BE THE PRIMARY MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO ACHIEVE. ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THESE PLANS INCLUDING ADDITIONAL HOURS AND MANDATORY CLOSED PERIODS ARE ONLY TO OCCUR IF THE IN-RIVER SONAR GOAL WILL BE MET WITH THEIR USE. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO, LATE-RUN KENAI RIVER KING, AND KENAI RIVER COHO SALMON STOCKS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PERSONAL USE, SPORT, AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMEN WITH A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON RESOURCES.]

(b) The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries shall be managed to;

(1) meet a **final** [OPTIMUM] escapement goal range of 500,000 - **8000,000** [1,000,000] late-run sockeye salmon;

(2) **The fisheries below river-mile 19 sonar site shall be managed to achieve an in-river sonar goal of 600,000 to 900,000 sockeye** [ACHIEVE INRIVER GOALS AS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD AND MEASURED AT THE KENAI RIVER SONAR COUNTER LOCATED AT RIVER MILE 19; AND]

(3) **The fisheries above river-mile 19 sonar site shall be managed to** achieve a final escapement of **500,000 to 800,000 sockeye** [DISTRIBUTE THE ESCAMENT OF SOCKEYE SALMON EVENLY WITHIN THE OEG RANGE, IN PROPORTION TO THE SIZE OF THE RUN

(c) BASED ON PRESEASON FORECASTS AND INSEASON EVALUATIONS OF THE TOTAL KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON RETURN DURING THE FISHING SEASON, THE RUN WILL BE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS;

- (1) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF LESS THAN 2,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,
- (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 650,000 - 850,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19 AND AN OEG OF 500,000 - 750,000 SOCKEYE SALMON; AND
- (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT

THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, AT WHICH TIME THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 24-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;

- (2) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF 2,000,000 TO 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,
 - (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 750,000 - 950,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19 AND AN OEG OF 650,000 - 850,000 SOCKEYE SALMON; AND
 - (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION OF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST, IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 51-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;
 - (C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY AND FOR AN ADDITIONAL 24-HOUR PERIOD DURING THE SAME MANAGEMENT WEEK;
- (3) AT RUN STRENGTHS GREATER THAN 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,
 - (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 850,000 - 1,100,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19 AND AN OEG OF 750,000-1,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON, AND
 - (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDRICIT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC.21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION OF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NOT MORE THAN 84-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;
 - (C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK, BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY.

(d) THE SONAR COUNT LEVELS ESTABLISHED THIS SECTION MAY BE LOWERED BY THE BOARD IF NONCOMMERCIAL FISHING, AFTER

CONSIDERATION OF MITIGATION EFFORTS, RESULTS IN A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT ON THE KENAI RIVER. THE DEPARTMENT WILL TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, CONDUCT HABITAT ASSESSMENTS ON A SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES (BOARD) TRIENNIAL MEETING CYCLE. IF THE ASSESSMENTS DEMONSTRATE A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT CAUSED BY NONCOMMERCIAL FISHERMEN, THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO REPORT THOSE FINDINGS TO THE BOARD AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE BOARD FOR APPROPRIATE MODIFICATION OF THE KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON INRIVER GOAL.

(e) REPEALED.

(f) REPEALED.]

(g) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the [OPTIMAL] escapement goal, the department shall provide for a personal use dip net fishery in the lower Kenai River as specified in 5 AAC 77.540.

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows;

(1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and

(2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the **final escapement** [ABUNDANCE] of late-run sockeye will exceed **800,000** [EXCEEDS TWO MILLION] salmon, at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit to six sockeye salmon.

(i) [FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, “WEEK” MEANS A CALENDER WEEK, A PERIOD OF TIME BEGINNING AT 12:00 A.M. SUNDAY AND ENDING AT 12:00 MIDNIGHT THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.]

ISSUE: Delete meaningless and confusing language from the plans and clarify the management for the escapement goal.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI with no benefit to any users in the long term

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, makes the plans clear and concise and manages to ensure that the escapement goal is achieved. It also returns the lower end of the sonar range to 600,000 where it should be since the sport fishery harvest with a three fish bag limit is 100,000 not 150,000, as the BOF was led to believe.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, this system worked for 50 years with great success.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-228)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 192 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify Kenai River late-run sockeye plan as follows:

5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Salmon Management Plan.

(a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance. The department shall also manage the commercial fisheries to minimize the harvest of Northern District coho, late-run Kenai River king, and Kenai River coho salmon stocks in order to provide personal use, sport, and guided sport fishermen with a reasonable opportunity to harvest salmon resources.

(b) The Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon commercial, sport, and personal use fisheries shall be managed to:

- (1) meet an optimum escapement goal (OEG) range of 500,000 - 1,000,000 late-run sockeye salmon;
- (2) achieve inriver goals as established by the board and measured at the Kenai River sonar counter located at river mile 19; and
- (3) distribute the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly within the OEG range, in proportion to the size of the run.

(c) [BASED ON PRESEASON FORECASTS AND INSEASON EVALUATIONS OF THE TOTAL KENAI RIVER LKATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON RETURN DURING THE FISHING SEASON, THE RUN WILL BE MANAGED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF LESS THAN 2,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,
 - (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 650,000 - 850,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND
 - (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, UNLESS THE DEPARMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, AT WHICH TIME THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 24-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;
- (2) AT RUN STRENGTHS OF 2,000,000 TO 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,
 - (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 750,000 - 950,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND
 - (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION OF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER

OCCURS FIRST; IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 51-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;

(C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONTINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY AND FOR AN ADDITIONAL 24-HOUR PERIOD DURING THE SAME MANAGEMENT WEEK;

(3) AT RUN STRENGTHS GREATER THAN 4,000,000 SOCKEYE SALMON,

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE FOR AN INRIVER GOAL RANGE OF 850,000 - 1,100,000 SOCKEYE SALMON PAST THE SONAR COUNTER AT RIVER MILE 19; AND

(B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER MANAGEMENT PLANS, THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL FISH REGULAR WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS, AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 21.320, THROUGH JULY 20, OR UNTIL THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A DETERMINATION OF RUN STRENGTH, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST; IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE MINIMUM INRIVER GOAL WILL NOT BE MET, THE FISHERY SHALL BE CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AS NECESSARY; THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, ALLOW EXTRA FISHING PERIODS OF NO MORE THAN 84-HOURS PER WEEK, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN 5 AAC 21.365;

(C) THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT SET GILLNET FISHERY WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE CONINUOUS 36-HOUR PERIOD PER WEEK, BEGINNING BETWEEN 7:00 P.M. AND 12:00 MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY,

(d) THE SONAR COUNT LEVELS ESTABLISHED THIS SECTION MAY BE LOWERED BY THE BOARD IF NONCOMMERCIAL FISHING, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF MITIGATION EFFORTS, RESULTS IN A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT ON THE KENAI RIVER. THE DEPARTMENT WILL, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, CONDUCT HABITAT ASSESSMENTS ON A SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES (BOARD) TRIENNIAL MEETING CYCLE. IF THE ASSESSMENTS DEMONSTRATE A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT CUASSED BY NONCOMMERCIAL FISHERMEN, THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO REPORT THOSE FINDINGS TO THE BOARD AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE BOARD FOR APPOPRIATE MODIFICTION OF THE KENAI RIVER LATE-RUN SOCKEYE SALMON INRIVER GOAL.

(e) REPEALED.

(f) REPEALED.]

(g) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall provide for a personal use net fishery in the lower Kenai River as specified in 5 AAC.77.540.

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

(1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and

(2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon [, UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE ABUNDANCE OF LATE-RUN SOCKEYE EXCEEDS TWO MILLION SALMON, AT WHICH TIME THE COMMISSIONER MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, INCREASE THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT TO SIX SOCKEYE SALMON.

(i) FOR THE PUPOSES OF THIS SECTION “WEEK” MEANS A CALENDAR WEEK, A PERIOD OF TIME BEGINNING AT 12:00:01 A.M. SUNDAY AND ENDING AT 12:00 MIDNIGHT THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY.]

ISSUE: Delete the windows and other limits on management, authority which is causing the commercial fishery to catch more kings than they would otherwise catch

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to cause problems between these users with no benefit anyone. This causes a great deal of waste, about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI are going in-river over the goals with no benefit to any users in the long term.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, makes the plans clear and concise and manages to ensure that the escapement goal is achieved without a great deal of meaningless closures and restrictions that help no one.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, this system worked for 50 years with great success.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgens

(HQ-07F-238)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC12
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9

Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 193 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify Upper Cook Inlet management plan as follows:

- a. from 5 AAC 21.360 (c) at run strengths of less than 2,000,000 sockeye salmon,
 - i. from 5 AAC 21.360(c)(1)(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 650,000 - 850,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and
 - ii. the sport fishing bag and possession limit shall be 3 fish with 3 fish in possession until such time as the department exceeds the extra fishing periods allowed of 24 hours per week then, at the discretion of the Commissioner, the sport fishing bag and possession limit may be increased to 4 fish and up to 8 fish in possession.

- b. from 5 AAC 21.360(c)(2) at run strengths of 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 sockeye salmon,
 - i. from 5 AAC 21.360(c)(2) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 750,000 - 950,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19; and
 - ii. the sport fishing bag and possession limit shall be 3 fish with 3 fish in possession until such times as the department exceeds the extra fishing periods allowed of 51 hours per week or if the department voids the 36 hour weekly closure and/or voids the additional 24 hour weekly closure then, at the discretion of the Commissioner the sport fishing bag and possession limit may be increased to 6 fish and up to 2 fish in possession.

- c. from 5 AAC 21.360(c)(3) at run strengths greater than 4,000,000 sockeye salmon,
 - i. from 5 AAC 21.360(c)(3)(A) the department shall manage for an inriver goal range of 850,000 - 1,100,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter mile 19; and
 - ii. the sport fishing bag and possession limit shall be 6 fish with 6 fish in possession until such time as the department exceeds the extra fishing periods of 84 hours per week or if the department voids the 36 hour weekly set net closure then, at the discretion of the Commissioner the sport fishing bag and possession limit may be increased to 8 fish and up to 16 fish in possession.

ISSUE: Sportfishers are not able to benefit from large sockeye salmon returns to the Kenai River until very late in the season due to the current regulatory structure of the Kenai River Late Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. If we are going to manage the Kenai River sockeye salmon using the “over escapement” philosophy under current regulations sportfishers are not allowed an increased harvest opportunity during “emergency commercial openings”, that usually occur during high escapement periods with large runs.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Kenai River may be inundated with higher numbers of sockeye salmon without an inriver method or means to slow the heavy surges of fish down.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, improved quality of freshly harvested fish for the public. It would provide an earlier opportunity for anglers to harvest abundant sockeye salmon in the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The resource will benefit because we would now have another tool to help slow the escapement of sockeye salmon into the Kenai River and avoid problems with over escapement. In addition, the borough economy would benefit through increased sales tax revenue from increased tourist and angler related purchases.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Start the season with a 6 fish bag limit. That might create a situation of too great a harvest for the size of the sockeye salmon return and failure to achieve the necessary escapement goal.

PROPOSED BY: Rod and Randy Berg

(HQ-07F-254)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's

Association PC45

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 194 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Set Kenai River late run sockeye escapement goal range of 400,000 to 700,000 as follows:

Amend (b)(1) as follows:

Meet a Kenai River spawning escapement goal range of 400,000 to 700,000 late-run sockeye salmon.

ISSUE: Lost economic opportunity for the Kenai Peninsula.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lost economic opportunity, over escapement into the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen, processors, consumers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Sue the board for not taking economic loss into consideration/allocation to in-river fishery. Could not afford to sue.

PROPOSED BY: Wesley J. Humbyrd

(HQ-07F-380)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC1
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 195 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Repeal regulations that require mandatory time and area closures, windows, and limit the commissioner's emergency authority as follows:

Repeal those portions of the management plan that require mandatory time and area closures, windows, and limit the emergency order authority of the commissioner.

Repeal 5 AAC 21.360(c).

ISSUE: The current management plans take away the manager's flexibility for allowing the commercial salmon harvest to be more evenly spread out over the entire run. The plans also make it impossible not to exceed the escapement goals on medium to large returns.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The bulk of harvest will continue to be only within a one-week peak period. This fact places the processing facilities at maximum or overcapacity, and greatly reduces quality. Medium to large returns will exceed the biological escapement goals, thereby wasting the surplus, and reducing the stability of supplying quality wild salmon meet market demand and maintaining market share.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, by spreading the harvest evenly over the entire run the fishermen and processors will have time to properly ice and handle the salmon. This will result in higher volumes of premium quality salmon that can be certified in the Kenai Wild program, thereby increasing the market of wild salmon. This benefits the entire fishing industry.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen, crew, processors, support businesses and the local economy because a larger volume of high quality salmon will be available to develop and meet market demand and return a higher price.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. These changes would allow the department the flexibility to biologically manage the fisheries on real time in-season abundance, as they are allowed to do in other salmon fisheries of the state.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions will work to spread the harvest out, to improve quality, and prevent waste of surplus salmon from being unharvested by any users. The current plans are proven not to work and must be changed to improve quality and provide a more stable supply of wild salmon.

PROPOSED BY: Wesley J. Humbyrd

(HQ-07F-382)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC1
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition

Cooper Landing AC12

Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

PC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 196 - 5 AAC 21.360(b)(1). Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify Kenai River late run sockeye escapement goals as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(b)(1) meet an escapement goal of 400,000 - 700,000 late run sockeye salmon.

In addition, section (c) would be deleted, for those sections which define three ranges of in-river goals. Only a single in-river goal above the sonar counter of 400,000 - 700,000 sockeye.

ISSUE: The management of the Kenai River sockeye salmon for an OEG of 500,000 to 1,000,000 fish has created lost harvest opportunity for the commercial fleets and moved the management of the fishery away from high sustained yield management without providing significant benefit to any user group.

Late-run Kenai River sockeye salmon are the backbone of the commercial industry in Cook Inlet. The Kenai River represents the single most important system for sockeye production and should be managed for high sustained yield. These fish are going into the escapement, not to other users of the resource, as the allocation of sockeye salmon for sport fishing users in the in-river goal, not the OEG. There is no positive benefit for allowing excess spawning fish into the river. Biological limitations on sockeye salmon production are evident in recent studies of lake rearing capacity and the number of fish entering the system is more than adequate for other wildlife.

In addition, the three-tier plan in present regulations is confusing for managers and users alike. It requires that an estimate be made of the total run by July 20 and escapements adjusted accordingly. This has a negative impact on the flexibility of the department to harvest large returns.

Establish one BEG and one in-river escapement goal for all run strengths. The meeting of the BEG takes precedence over OEG and in-river goals.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued loss of economic gain from Kenai River sockeye production.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users would be able to participate in the harvest of fish excess to the in-river goals. In large returns, the goals probably cannot be met because the exploitation rates needed are very high. However, philosophically we should try to manage for maximum sustained yield in the most productive system in Cook Inlet for sockeye salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The escapement goal of 400,000 - 700,000, plus the above sonar part harvest allocation provides for the in-river sport harvest above the sonar

counter. However, additional fishing time in the commercial fishery may impact the other species harvested incidental to sockeye salmon, including Chinook and coho salmon. This would impact users of these resources. Personal use fishermen also may see fewer fish available to them as the number of fish on average would be reduced along entering the river. The harvest may not go down proportionally since large numbers of sockeye salmon would still be available for harvest over a long time period.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? There are no other solutions if one is to manage for maximum sustained yield.

PROPOSED BY: Wesley J. Humbyrd

(HQ-07F-383)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 197 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.. Establish Kenai River late run sockeye escapement goal range of 400,000 - 700,000 as follows:

Amend (b) regulations as follows:

Establish one escapement goal range of 400,000 - 700,000 for Kenai late-run sockeye that has one sonar goal with allocations for sport fish harvest levels below and above the sonar.

ISSUE: Simplify the management plans for the Kenai late-run sockeyes. Currently, there are three tiers in the management plans for:

- less than 2 million;
- 2 to 4 million;
- over 4 million;

Each of these tiers have different restrictions on times, areas, and harvest strategies. Often these tiers are contradictory, confusing, and really do not work well for anyone.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued poor management plan performance, confusing and totally unnecessary micromanagement plans.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This will reduce conflicts by removing private interpretations of the regulations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Those who want clear and functional management plans will benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, because the current plan creates a waste of unharvested fish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo.

PROPOSED BY: Wesley J. Humbyrd

(HQ-07F-388)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 198 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Amend the Kenai River late run sockeye management plan for commercial uses and establish escapement goals as follows:

5 AAC 21.360

(a) The department shall manage the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stocks primarily for commercial uses based on abundance. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF NORTHERN DISTRICT COHO, LATE-RUN KENAI RIVER KING, AND KENAI RIVER COHO SALMON STOCKS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PERSONAL USE, SPORT AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMEN WITH A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON RESOURCES.]

(b)(1) meet the **spawning** [optimum] escapement goal [(OEG)] range of **400,000-700,** [500,000-1,000,000] late-run sockeye salmon;

(b)(3) distribute, **as practical,** the escapement of sockeye salmon evenly within the **spawning escapement** [OEG] range, in proportion to the size of the run.

ISSUE: This management plan, after multiply years of use, it simply doesn't work. This plan unduly restricts local managers to the point that it is impossible to manage for escapement goals and inevitable creates over escapement, loss of harvestable resource, on both large and small returns. This creates economic loss and hardship on the users, communities and biological harm to the resource and future returns.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued over escapement, economic harm, and waste of the harvestable surplus and reduced future salmon returns. Continued conflict between management plans.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This will improve quality by allowing the managers to manage on a real-time basis spreading the harvest out more evenly and further way from the river for the entire run. This allows for more harvest of bright salmon with a higher oil content which commands a higher demand and price.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users, the resource, the managers, the local economies by harvesting the surplus and maintaining future high returns from managing biologically for maximum sustained yields.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Only those who want to continue conflicting, dysfunctional management plans that are proven to produce future low returns and poorer quality product.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. Remaining status quo will only continue to waste the harvestable surplus and produce small returns and poorer quality

product.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-441)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 199 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Modify Kenai River salmon escapement goals as follows:

The Kenai River sustainable escapement goal (SEG) range should be 500,000 - 800,000 sockeye. Three tiered abundance based management should be eliminated. It simply is not working. An in-river goal range of 600,000 to 900,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19 should be established for the Kenai River. The BOF will direct ADF&G to manage to the goals.

ISSUE: Three tiered abundance management is not working. The Kenai River has exceeded its maximum in-river goal the past 5 years. In 2000 and 2001 the minimum BEG was not met. The Dept. of Fish and Game has their hands tied with too many restrictions put on them, in the current management plans. Since the inception of the three tiered system, in 1999, ADF&G's pre-season forecasts have never been accurate. ADF&G has to assess their pre-season predictions on or after July 20. Since 1999 ADF&G's July 20 in-season forecast has never correlated with their pre-season forecast. With a change in forecast the goals change and so do management plans that affect all user groups. 2006 was a prime example. Less than two million sockeye were projected to the Kenai River, thus the management plan directed the department to manage for an in-river goal range of 650,000-850,000 sockeye. Less than 100,000 sockeye were past the sonar counter on July 19. This led to restrictions and closures on all user groups-personal use, sport, and commercial. In the end, ADF&G missed their pre-season projection. 1,499,692 sockeye passed the sonar counter. This was 549,692 sockeye over the maximum in-river goal. This was a total waste of the resource in 2006 and most likely will cause diminishing sockeye returns in 2011. There was a great economic loss in 2006 and most likely there will be another economic loss in 2011, due to the high escapement in 2006. All user groups might suffer in 2011 due to this high escapement in 2006. ADF&G should be asked what are the effects, to future sockeye production, due to excessive back to back to back high sockeye escapements to the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? History will repeat itself. Inflexible management plans will restrict ADF&G's ability to manage to the goals. ADF&G and the BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the sockeye available for harvest in Upper Cook Inlet.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? With unnecessary regulations lifted, ADF&G might be able to allow extra fishing time in a way that could improve quality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All user groups, area businesses and the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Anybody that wants a stable fishery with goals that will be managed to, by ADF&G.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, as all in-river goals will be achieved.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Go to two-tiered management. Under 3

million and over 3 million sockeye returning to the Kenai River. In-river goals would change according to the size of the run. This would affect all user groups opportunities with possible changes in time, area, and bag limits. Thus I feel the same conflicts would arise and ADF&G would still have a problem with in-season management. With this uncertainty and confusing management plans, fish available for harvest will continue to be wasted.

PROPOSED BY: Sara Pellegrom

(HQ-07F-091)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC4

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 200 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Remove windows for Kenai area as follows:

Open fishery when fish are present, mandatory closures is wrong when fish are present.

ISSUE: Remove windows.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? More wasted fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Fish are in better condition.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Why close the fishing when fish are there.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs (HQ-07F-030)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC12

Anchorage AC9
KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 201 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.. Modify Kenai River escapement goals as follows:

Escapement 450,000 - 750,000.

ISSUE: Kenai River escapement.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued waste of fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Fish caught before fresh water phase.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Eliminating windows.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs

(HQ-07F-031)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30	Cooper Landing AC12	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45		Anchorage AC9
		Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
		Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
		Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
		KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 202 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Amend windows provisions for Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Plan as follows:

Amend windows provisions as follows:

1) At run strengths of less than 2,000,000 sockeye salmon, add **“(C) the upper Subdistrict will be closed for one continuous 48-hour period per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday and for an additional continuous 36-period per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Monday and 7:00 a.m. Tuesday.”**

2) At run strengths of 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 sockeye salmon, revise as **“(C) the upper Subdistrict will be closed for one continuous 36-hour period per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday and for an additional [24 - 36 HOUR PERIOD DURING THE SAME MANGEMENT WEEK] per week beginning between 7:00 pm Monday and 7:00 a.m. Tuesday.”**

ISSUE: The Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Management Plan does not provide direction for the weekly timing of fishery escapement/allocation windows at sockeye run strengths of less than 2 million. Nor is the additional 24-hour window at run strengths of 2 to 4 million sockeye adequate to provide the intended benefits. Emergency order openers timed for Friday or Saturday disrupt in-river fishing opportunity on the weekend. A 24-hour window merely reloads the beaches for the setnet fishery and does not provide for adequate in-river escapement to meet the management intent of windows.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Fishery windows ensure that harvest is spread equally throughout the run; reproductive capacity of the genetic resource is maintained; in -river fisheries are afforded a fair and reasonable opportunity; and commercial harvest does not take an excessive share of sport-priority species (Chinook and coho). Failure to establish and maintain adequate fishery windows undercuts reasonable in-river fisheries, allocates disproportionate harvest shares to the commercial fishery, and risks balanced representation of all run components on the spawning grounds.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users will benefit from protection of the genetic diversity that sustains productivity. Sport and personal use fishers will benefit from predictable fishery opportunities of windows.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial fishers attempting to maximize their harvest of sockeye and Chinook at the expense of fair and appropriate access by other user groups.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because of a consistent pattern of commercial fishery management to maximize the commercial harvest share without regard for effects on in-river fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association

(HQ-07F-153)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Homer AC1
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 203 - 5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan; 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Limit commercial fishing prior to availability of in-season run strength estimate as follows:

Prior to July 20 or when ADF&G makes its **in-season** run strength estimate, commercial fishing shall be limited to a twelve hour period of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. each Monday. Additional fishing periods would be based on actual run strength as reflected in the Kenai River Sockeye sonar counter values.

ISSUE: Article 8, Section 3 of Alaska’s constitution states: “Wherever occurring in their natural state, fish, wildlife, and waters are reserved to the people for common use”. Because more than half of Alaska’s residents live in Southcentral Alaska with many more having access to the reaction because of the road systems, it is more evident than ever that the salmon fishery stocks of Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) should be managed so that sport, guided sport, and personal use fishery participants are provided priority access to the common property fish resource. When sport fishers purchase a license, it is assumed that the purchaser is entitled to reasonable opportunity to harvest the common property resource for their personal consumption. Current ADF&G management practices have denied the sport fisher this reasonable opportunity during the July sockeye salmon harvest period.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Consumptive salmon fishers (sport, personal use and guided sport) will continue to be denied the reasonable opportunity harvest sockeye in Upper Cook Inlet. Similar to when the commercial fisherman stated that his permit assures him of the opportunity to harvest sufficient fish for him to provide for his family, a consumptive (sport) fishing license would assure the sport fisher the opportunity to provide fish for his family.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Consumptive user groups such as sport, guided sport, personal use, and subsistence would benefit as the opportunity to harvest enough salmon to feed their families would be enhanced.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? This proposal will reduce the opportunities of the central district drift and setnet commercial fisheries. However, the reduced value of the commercial catch will be more than offset by the much greater economic value of the fish in the consumptive fisheries.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Not allow any commercial fishing until the in-season estimate is made-this would front load the salmon escapement and not allow for genetic diversity as the latter part of the run might be decimated by the nets.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Sportfishing Association

(HQ-07F-420)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska
Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 204 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Eliminate regulatory language from the commercial plans that direct department to minimize harvest of late run Kenai River kings in order to provide personal use, sport use as follows:

Delete from all management plans that contain the wording: [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ALSO MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES TO MINIMIZE THE HARVEST OF LATE-RUN KENAI RIVER KING IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PERSONAL USE, SPORT, AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMEN WITH A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST SALMON RESOURCES.]

ISSUE: Unnecessary language in management plans that restricts the flexibility for the managers to manage on a real-time basis of in season abundance.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued conflict, unnecessary restrictions resulting in un-harvested salmon surpluses.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It allows a more evenly harvest effort to be spread over the course of the run.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users by being able to harvesting the salmon surpluses.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The Kenai run is healthy.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-457)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC12
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 205 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.. Revise Cook Inlet management plan and allocation as follows:

Develop a management plan that enables all other user groups an equal share of the resources beyond for various and systems. Give equal authority to sport and commercial sides of ADF&G to determine when emergency openings are granted and how these decisions are reached. With relocation there would need to increased exploitation in rivers to prevent overescapement. This could achieve threw altering methods and means as well as possible bag limit increases.

ISSUE: Resource allocation disproportionately awarded to commercial fishermen.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The end users ie. Sport, guided sport, dipnet, fed subsistence, and state subsistence users will continue to fight each other for a 20% share of the resource. While the commercial fleets continue to go outside current management plans and exploit resources to the deferment of all other users.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it will improve the quality and long term health of fish stocks in Cook Inlet. For instance in 2006 the commercial fleet were given emergency opening early in order to “balance” the harvest and avoid an “overescapement” into spawning systems. This action “bottles” the fish up and prevented them from reaching their destinations at normal times. When fishing was closed due to week returns the fish showed up in large numbers but these fish were mostly “water marked” and very scared up due to contact with many commercial nets. We need to have a balanced effort in the commercial fishing that allows fish to proceed up the inlet at a reasonable pace. For every period nets are fished there should be an adequate time with no nets in order to allow, unimpeded travel to spawning grounds.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The fish will benefit most, next the rest of the users will have a more equitable chance at fish that are heeded.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial operators that currently enjoy an inequitably disputed resource allocation.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A total closure in commercial netting in Cook Inlet. I decided that is best for fish. But they have an equal right to fish, as I do. Not an 80% -20% right but 50%-50%.

PROPOSED BY: Monte Roberts

(HQ-07F-211)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Mat-Valley AC10

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

Mat-Valley AC10

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 206 - 5 AAC 21.360(h). Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Amend this regulation as follows:

(h) ...

If the projected inriver goal of sockeye salmon is less than 650,000 and the inriver sport fishery harvest is projected to result in an escapement below the optimal escapement goal, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reduce the bag and possession limit for sockeye salmon in the sport fishery, as specified in 75.003 (1)(A).

ISSUE: Current regulations allow for liberalizing the sport fishing bag and possession limit from three to six sockeye salmon depending upon run strength projections. Adding the flexibility of reducing the daily bag and possession limit by emergency order rather than a total closure may reduce disruption to the Kenai River sockeye salmon sport fishery during years when the department projects that the in river goal of 650,000-850,000 late-run sockeye salmon will not be met but the optimum escapement goal (OEG) of 500,000-1,000,000 late-run sockeye salmon above the River Mile 19 ADFG sockeye salmon sonar site could be met if the sport fishing sockeye salmon bag and possession limit is lowered below three fish. At run strengths of less than 2,000,000 sockeye salmon, the Alaska Board of Fisheries established an inriver goal range of 650,000-850,000 late-run sockeye salmon to help ensure that the OEG of 500,000-1,000,000 fish is met after harvest by the sport fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? During years of below average or late arriving Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon, current regulations close the sockeye salmon sport fishery when the OEG is projected not to be met based upon an expected harvest level with a three fish bag limit. During these types of sockeye salmon returns, the OEG may not be met if the bag and possession limit remains at three sockeye salmon thus the sport fishery is closed. If the department had the flexibility to lower the daily bag and possession limit below three fish, the OEG may be met without the disruption of totally closing the sport fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers who fish for late-run sockeye salmon and the businesses that rely upon those anglers. The adverse economic impacts of below average or late arriving returns will be reduced for the portions of the communities of the Kenai Peninsula which depends upon the inriver sport fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Escapement goals will continue to be managed for, based upon inseason information.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-280)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Homer AC1
Cooper Landing AC3
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10
Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Gary Hollier PC 50

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 207 - 5 AAC 77.525. Personal use salmon fishery; and 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Allow the commissioner to increase the bag limit up to 12 sockeye salmon if abundance exceeds four million as follows.

5 AAC21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan would be modified to read in h it the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery in three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 2,000,000 salmon at which time the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit to six sockeye salmon; **if the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 4,000,000 salmon, at which time, the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit to 12 sockeye salmon in the mainstem Kenai River.**

5 AAC 77.525(C) In the personal use taking of salmon, unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 77.500-5 AAC 77.548, the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is 25 salmon for the head of a household and 10 salmon for each dependent of the permit holder. **If the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds 4,000,000 salmon, the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the head of household annual limit to 35 sockeye salmon and allow dipnetting from an anchored boat in the area from the Warren Ames bridge up to the king salmon sonar counter.**

ISSUE: The commercial fishing regulations unfairly discriminate against sport fishers when the sockeye run exceeds 4,000,000 fish. The commercial fleet gets more time to fish but the in-river fisher is provided no additional harvest limit on runs strength of that magnitude.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulations will continue to discriminate against the in-river fisher.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Consumptive user groups such as sport, guided sport, personal use, would benefit as fewer fishing trips would be needed to harvest sufficient salmon for family consumption.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Sportfishing Association

(HQ-07F-421)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing AC3

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Homer AC1

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition

Mt. Yenlo AC6

PC9

Anchorage AC9

Central Peninsula AC8

Mat-Valley AC10

UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 208 - 5 AAC 21.360(h)(2). Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Allow additional harvest opportunity when in-river sockeye abundance warrants as follows:

(h) Subject to the requirement of achieving the lower end of the optimal escapement goal, the department shall manage the sport fishery on the Kenai River, except that portion of the Kenai River from its confluence with the Russian River to an ADF&G regulatory marker located 1,800 yards downstream, as follows:

- (1) fishing will occur seven days per week, 24 hours per day; and
- (2) the bag and possession limit for the sport fishery is three sockeye salmon, unless the department determines that the abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds two million salmon, at which time the commissioner, by emergency order, increase the bag [AND POSSESSION] limit to six sockeye salmon daily and **12** [6] in possession.

(3) If abundance of late-run sockeye exceeds four million salmon, the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag limit to nine sockeye salmon daily and 18 in possession.

ISSUE: Provide the department authority to increase sockeye salmon sport bag and possession limits during periods of large in-river abundance. This authority needs to be explicitly stated in the management plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? In seasons of large inriver returns sockeye salmon surplus to escapement needs are available for harvest. This proposal will allow the Department to provide that additional harvest opportunity when runs size warrants.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen on the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered including in this proposal the option for the Department to reduce bag and possession limits during periods of low abundance but did not do so as we understood a staff proposal was being submitted to address that condition.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-154)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

Mat-Valley AC10
KRSA PC27

Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 209 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan. Open a Kenai River Special Harvest Area as follows:

Open a Kenai River Special Harvest Area (terminal fishery) as soon as the minimum sonar goal is achieved.

ISSUE: Missed opportunity to harvest sockeye in excess of in-river goals. We used to be able to drift in the mouth of the Kenai to catch surplus sockeye.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continuing sockeye over-escapement in the Kenai River. Wasted fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen at the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Opening the terminal area sooner.

PROPOSED BY: Mary Holler

(HQ-07F-119)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing AC12

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30

Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 210 - 5 AAC 57.150. Russian River Sockeye Salmon Management Plan.. Increase commercial allocation of Russian River sockeye as follows:

Manage so 50 percent of early Russian River reds revert back to commercial fishery.

ISSUE: Russian River Sockeye plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? No access to surplus fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Appeals to early market demands.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Non-resident sport fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? These stocks have recovered.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs

(HQ-07F-032)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 211 - 5 AAC 21.360. Kenai River Late-Run Sockeye Salmon Management Plan; and 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Prohibit dipnetting on the Kenai River until BEG is met as follows:

The dipnet fishery starts after 450,000 biological escapement goal reached.

ISSUE: Unlimited dipnet fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued expansion of dipnet fishery in a limited fully allocated fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? A personal use fishery is not supposed to impact the commercial fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Dipnetters will begin at the peak of the run. Commercial fishermen will not be closed by dipnetters putting the brakes on escapement.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? July 15 start, 7 am – 7 pm., if fish are abundant, everyone fishes.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs (HQ-07F-037)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC3
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 212 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Close personal use dipnet fishery on Kenai River until escapement goals are met as follows:

Dipnetting on the Kenai River will commence only after the lower end of the BEG is reached at the counter.

ISSUE: The opening date of the dipnet fishery on the Kenai River. Prior to 1996 dipnetting opened only after 450,000 sockeye had passed the counter. It was always a surplus fishery. Commercial fishing has priority. The change was done illegally without public notice or comment on the last day of the 1996 BOF meeting.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Dipnetting will continue to illegally have priority over commercial fishing because commercial fishing is restricted if the BEG is met. The BEG is reached later because dipnetters take fish below the counter.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen won't have to wait so long for the BEG to be reached. Sport fishermen may continue to fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Dipnetters who think they have priority.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Steve Vanek

(HQ-07F-100)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

OPPOSE

Homer AC1
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters
Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 213 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Link personal use dipnet openings to escapement numbers as follows:

I would like to see escapement numbers by certain dates be the trigger to allow dipnetting. If it looks slow early on, then along with commercial users' restrictions, dipnetting ought to be closed.

ISSUE: The burden of conservation needs to be shared by dipnetters in the Kenai River. Currently, dipnetting begins on a fixed starting date without regard to run strength.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? In years of poor returns, especially early in the season, commercial fishing will be restricted because the dipnetted fish won't make it across the counter. Dipnetting should not be able to interfere with an orderly commercial fishery. If nothing is done, then every season's escapement numbers will look like the run is starting out slow and commercial fishing will get curtailed.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Allowing more fish to escape early on will give managers a clearer picture of run strength, perhaps lessening the likelihood of over-escapement later in the year.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Commercial fishermen and managers will benefit if all users have to share in conservation efforts. All users would be motivated to prevent over-escapement and be concerned about having a healthy return.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Dipnetters, like other users, won't be able to fish when there is a conservation concern.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? ADF&G biologists should count any dipnetted fish early in the run as escapement so they have a true perspective on the run size. This wouldn't solve the problem of dipnetters not sharing the burden of conservation.

PROPOSED BY: Teague Vanek (HQ-07F-090)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Homer AC1
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters
Assoc. PC39

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 214 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Extend dipnet season on Kenai River as follows:

When more salmon go up the Kenai and should dipnet fishing be reopened, that days lost to early closure be added to dipnet fishing.

ISSUE: Early dipnet closure at mouth of Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Overcrowding at Kasilof River mouth.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Don't know - will improve subsistence jarring and freezing.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Dipnet fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Patricia L. Shearer and Sheila Caloona (HQ-07F-313)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing AC3
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska
Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 215 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Increased harvest opportunity in personal use fishery in Kenai and Kasilof rivers as follows:

5 AAC 77.540 (c)(1)(B) is amended to read:

- (i) The annual limit is as specified in 5 AAC 77.525, except that only one king salmon may be retained per household and,
- (ii) When sockeye salmon in-river run strength exceeds 850,000 sockeye salmon past the sonar counter at river mile 19, the annual head of household limit is 50 salmon and an additional 15 salmon for each dependant of the permit holder.

ISSUE: To provide the Department the authority to increase the annual limits in the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers personal use dip net fishery for salmon when sockeye salmon run strength allows.

The personal use dip net fishery for salmon in the Kenai River is configured to target sockeye salmon with some limited opportunity to harvest king salmon. Annual limits with this fishery are set at 25 salmon per head of household and an additional 10 salmon for each dependant of the permit holder.

There is no provision in regulation for Kenai dipnet personal use fishermen to benefit from increased harvest opportunity when there is a large surplus of salmon available in the Kenai River. This proposal seeks to provide the department the ability to react to large in-river abundance of sockeye salmon by making provisions that allow for increased dip net personal use harvest in the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? In years where sockeye salmon enter the river in excess of escapement targets increased harvest opportunity in personal use fisheries should be allowed. If nothing is done then at large run sizes Alaskan residents will not be allowed to share in the biological surplus and department managers will be limited in their ability to adjust in-river harvest potential when face with large salmon surplus. The personal use fishery is a viable tool for regulating escapement within desirable levels but has not been adequately utilized for this purpose.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Alaskan residents who would like to utilize salmon for their personal use.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, since these fish are surplus to escapement needs.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because current limits unnecessarily forego take of the harvestable surplus in the large run years when

escapement exceeds current escapement goals.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association

(HQ-07F-155)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska
Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 216 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Increase Kasilof River personal use household limit as follows:

If the upper end of the OEG is projected to be exceeded, then additional opportunity may be provided by [increasing the fishing area or extending the area] increasing the fishing area, extending the area, and/or doubling the personal and household limit.

ISSUE: A long history of “overescapment” of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. In most instances, when projections for exceeding the upper end of the OEG for Kasilof sockeye salmon are made, the vast majority of extra fish are passed along to the commercial salmon fishery via use of extra fish of extra fishing time and the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.

Overuse of the UCI commercial salmon fishery in the Kasilof section and the KRSHA places undue stress on the returns of late-run Kasilof king salmon, a stock that currently has no BEG in place.

In addition, there is no BEG/OEG in place for the Kasilof silver salmon run. Late season efforts to keep sockeye escapements at current levels impact the early portion of the Kasilof silver salmon run as well.

The excess fish should be made available to all user groups and extremely liberal limits should be put into place to encourage and allow sports and personal use fishermen to harvest a greater portion of these fish so that the impact on silvers and late-run kings are more limited by these “selective” fisheries.

Fishery managers claim that personal use (and sport effort) has not been an effective tool in staying within current management goals for Kasilof River sockeye salmon. By increasing limits rather than simply increasing time/area fished, it is likely that more effort and subsequent harvest will take place.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued over-harvest of Kasilof River late-run king salmon by efforts to keep sockeye numbers in check and some years, exceeding the upper end of the OEG for Kasilof River sockeye salmon.

There is also impact concern on the early-run Kasilof king salmon that have needed a number of regulatory changes in the fisheries by other user groups in recent years to help ensure meeting of the BEG for these fish.

The early portion of the Kasilof River silver salmon run will continue to be hurt by extreme efforts in late season to keep sockeye escapements within established goals by utilizing the UCI commercial salmon fishery rather than more selective methods.

Anecdotal evidence suggests later timing of the Kasilof late-run king salmon in present day than in past years. Continued aggressive commercial fishing effort to keep sockeye escapements in check will only hasten this issue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Personal use users of Kasilof River sockeye salmon, sport users of all other species of Kasilof River salmon present during the sockeye salmon run, and Kasilof business that will benefit from increased usage of the Kasilof River personal use fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? UCI commercial salmon fishers.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? More liberal limits for other user groups: not rejected but also proposed in conjunction with this distribution of fish.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-050)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska
Dipnetters Assoc. PC39

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 217 - 5 AAC 77.525. Personal use salmon fishery. Reduce personal use fishery limit to 5 salmon per person, 25 per household as follows:

Personal use limit is 5 salmon per person or 25 per household.

ISSUE: Personal use limits are too high and doesn't allow people to cycle through the good fishing spots.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Personal use fishers will continue to fight for a good spot while greedy people hog these spots.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, no can catch and take care of 75 or more fish. The average urban household eats 12 fish a year so the limits are excessive.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All Alaska residents.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Tom Obrien

(HQ-07F-241)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC3
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 218 - 5 AAC 77.525 (c). Personal use salmon fishery. Lower annual limits for personal use salmon harvest to 20 for head of household and 5 for each dependent and no more than 50% of limit may be taken from the Kenai River as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(c)...the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permit is **20** [25] salmon for the head of household and **5** [10] salmon for each dependant of the permit holder. **However, no more than 50 percent of the annual limit may be taken from the Kenai River.**

ISSUE: The increasing growth of the Kenai River personal use salmon fishery has created a reallocation of the resource away from commercial and sport fishing interest to personal use fishermen. When the Kenai River personal use fishery was created it was anticipated that this fishery would take 80,000 sockeye salmon. Today, this fishery takes over 200,000 sockeye salmon. This increase in growth violates the original intent of the personal use fishery allocation understanding when it was formed.

In addition, growth of the fishery is creating significant habitat problems within the river and adjacent to it in the wetland and sand dune areas. A major increase in the harvest of fish has resulted for a growing boat fishery. The boat fishery adds to the pollution of the Kenai River and the City of Kenai has indicated that a second boat ramp is planned to accommodate this growth. In addition to the boat fishery, the public use of the south shore of the Kenai River has resulted in damage to wetland areas through the use of off-terrain vehicles and waste disposal.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued growth in this fishery will create allocation issues and increased habitat destruction.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The general public, as habitat degradation should be reduced. In addition the original allocation intent of the board relative to the Kenai River personal use fisher will be restored.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those individuals who must fish at other sites if they wish to catch their total annual limit.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? The fishery could be limited to a shore-based fishery on the north side of the river. This area has sand dunes but measures have been taken to reduce the habitat damage. In addition, access does not require off-terrain vehicles. This is a viable solution and should be considered. It was felt that this option would create crowding and social problems so it was put at a lower priority.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Thompson

(HQ-07F-392)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters
Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 219 - 5 AAC 77.525(c). Personal use salmon fishery. Lower annual limits for personal use salmon harvest to 15 for head of household and 5 for each dependent as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

(c)...the total annual limit for each personal use salmon fishing permits is **15** [25] salmon for the head of household and **5** [10] salmon for each dependent of the permit holder.

ISSUE: The present personal use limits are excessive and relative to actual need. The department’s subsistence studies indicate that most households use 20 salmon per year in the urban areas. The liberal limits promote waste and increase the potential for illegal use of personal use caught fish.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Waste of the resource will continue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The general public, as fish will be used and evenly distributed between users. Fisheries with quotas such as the Kasilof gillnet fishery will last longer and more people can participate.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those individuals who require more than the suggested limits.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? NA.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Thompson

(HQ-07F-391)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters
Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 220 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Prohibit personal use dipnets with mesh size over 2 1/2 inches as follows:

A personal use dipnet cannot have a mesh size more than 2 1/2 inch in stretched length.

ISSUE: The problem is gillnets in the Kenai River. The public is totally against gillnets in the Kenai River. Some dipnets have gillnet web in them.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Board of Fish and the State of Alaska will be hypocrites at future federal subsistence meetings since they oppose gillnets in the Kenai River yet allow them in a dipnet.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who oppose gillnets in the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Persons who now have dipnets with gill net web in them. They will have to change the web.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Steve Vanek

(HQ-07F-101)

FAVOR

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing AC3
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 221 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Management Plan. Implement motor type restriction for dip net fishing from vessel as follows:

Amend this regulation to prohibit personal use dip netting on the Kenai River from a vessel that has on board a motor that is not a four-stroke or direct fuel injection two-stroke motor beginning in 2010.

ISSUE: The lower Kenai River has been listed as an impaired waterbody by the Alaska Department of Environment Conservation (ADEC). ADEC studies have documented high levels of hydrocarbon pollution attributed to boat engines. In 2000-2002, the Kenai Watershed Forum conducted systematic water quality monitoring and found elevated levels of hydrocarbons with the water column. An extensive study contracted by the ADEC in 2003 documented that outboard motors were the major source of hydrocarbon contamination. Two-stroke motors that do not have direct fuel injection (DFI) technology produce the greatest levels of hydrocarbon pollution.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Kenai River may continue to be listed as an impaired waterbody.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The fish and aquatic species in the lower Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Personal use fishermen who do not have a four-stroke or direct fuel injection two-stroke motor.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Close the area to dip netting from vessels.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-07F-461)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Homer AC1
- Cooper Landing AC3
- Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
- Kenai/Soldotna AC7
- Central Peninsula AC8
- Anchorage AC9
- UCIDA PC30
- Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

- Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 222 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Restrict 2-stroke motor boat use in personal use fishery as follows:

One option for consideration could be, under the heading “all boats” add: **During July no one with a 2-stroke motor (other than DFI) may fish or participate in the personal use motorized dipnet fishery except; From those boats with a current AK boat registration number who’s last number is odd may fish only on odd numbered days an those with last numbers that are even may fish on even numbered days.**

This proposal is submitted as one option that is fair to users of 2-stroke engines while moving hydrocarbon levels in the river to lower levels.

However, we are also aware that other proposals will come from recovery plans prepared by DEC and other agencies between now and the BOF meeting. Therefore, we are submitting this proposal to ensure that the BOF has the ability to discuss all options and would request that staff write the public notice to be inclusive of all ideas on this topic, including restrictions on total powerboat use and options for alteration of fishing methods and means.

We are aware that proposals to eliminate 2-stroke engines from the river immediately in 2008 will be forthcoming. We agree that 2-stroke engines (EPA non-compliant models) should be eliminated from use for fishing at some point. We leave it to the board of Fish to define that year (we would recommend 2010 as a starting point for discussion). Meant to be a placeholder for other options presented to the board in regard to recovery plans derived from Category 5 Impaired Water status mandates.

ISSUE: The State of Alaska water quality standards for hydrocarbons (10ppb) has been exceeded in the lower river. Additionally, measured values have reached 20 ppb below the personal use boat fishery and are due to outboard motor use, especially two cycle engines. This proposal is intended to reduce the use of two cycle engines and cut in half their contribution to the hydrocarbon problems without totally eliminating access to folks who own these types of motors. Any measure in this regard has to be a BOF regulatory action in order to affect both the in-river fishery in KRSMA waters and the personal use fishery outside of KRSMA’s area of authority.

This represents a clear conservation issue as water quality standards are designed to protect fish resources- this includes all fish resources of the Kenai River. Review of the literature by DEC toxicologist indicated that this standard is acceptable for most species. However, data are available and presented by DEC toxicologist that indicated 1 ppb can have an adverse impact on rainbow trout. Therefore, the hydrocarbon levels in the Kenai River should be as low as possible, given that DEC toxicologist recommendation, to protect and conserve the fish resources of the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The State of Alaska is required by the Clean Water Act to reduce levels to below the State of Alaska standard.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Owners of older 2-stroke engines that face elimination from these fisheries if a compromise measure is not adopted.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Owners of 2-stroke engines that wish to fishing more often.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition

(HQ-07F-338)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Homer AC1
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 223 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Require motorized boats utilizing the personal use fishery to be anchored or without power while fishing as follows:

From a boat, in the area from an ADF&G regulatory marker located near the Kenai city dock upstream to the downstream side of the Warren Ames Bridge; **vessels must be anchored with the engine off before fishing.** Or the alternative language of

Vessels with 2-stroke outboard motor (other than DFI) are limited to 0.75 miles on upstream of the public boat launch and must be anchored with the engine off before fishing. Or

Vessels with 2-stroke outboard motor (other than DFI) are limited to the West side of the river from the downstream boundary marker upstream to the Kenai Landing dock and must be anchored with the engine off before fishing.

ISSUE: The State of Alaska water quality standards for hydrocarbons (10ppb) has been exceeded in the lower river. Measured values have reached 20 ppb and are due to outboard motor use associated with the personal use boat fishery, especially two cycle engines. This proposal is intended to reduce the running of two cycle engines in this fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The State of Alaska is required by the Clean Water Act to reduce levels to below the State of Alaska standard. If this is not done the EPA can impose regulation to accomplish this objective.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, hydrocarbons in the Kenai River has already resulted in the river being classified an impaired river - Category 5. This gives the public the perception that Kenai River salmon are tainted and should not be consumed. It is imperative to reduce this impaired water status as fast as possible.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who uses the Kenai River resources and of course the resources of the river itself.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Some personal use fishermen who drift a dip net will be required to anchor. This will make it harder to catch fish but should not eliminate the opportunity to do so.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fisherman Coalition

(HQ-07F-334)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing AC3
Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters
Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 224 - 5 AAC 56.xxx. New section. Allow rod and reel in personal use fishery and identify consumptive users as a person fishing for winter supply as follows:

Consumptive users should be identified as a person that is fishing to take their fish home for a winter food supply. I identify them in the regulations an individual that are using a rod and reel to collect the food supplies.

ISSUE: A large number of Alaskans are classified as sports fishers because they use a rod and reel to harvest their winter food supply. They do this because it is the only means available to them and only classification.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Consumptive users will continue to lump with those that are out there just to enjoy fishing. The majority of the Alaskans on the river banks in reality are consumptive user. Yet they are beat up continually as a sports fisherman, one that plays with their food.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone that fishes with a rod and reel to gather their winter food supply.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Allow Alaskans to catch their personal use fish with rod and reel.

PROPOSED BY: Bruce Knowles (HQ-07F-134)

FAVOR

Chitina Dipnetters Association PC7
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
KRSA PC27

OPPOSE

Homer AC1
Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Ken Federico, S.C. Alaska Dipnetters Assoc. PC39
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 225 - 5 AAC 56.122(8)(a)(ii). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Increase days allowed to retain naturally-produced king salmon in the Kasilof River as follows:

5 AAC 56.122(8)(A)(ii) a naturally-produced king salmon may be retained on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays only;

ISSUE: Unpredictability of opportunity. This proposal is house-keeping in nature, since precedent of Thursday harvest is present. ADF&G would still have ability to remove harvest days in season, by emergency order, if biological concerns developed.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Opportunity to harvest surplus early-run naturally-produced Kasilof king salmon may be denied.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes; it provides predictable opportunity to harvest surplus early-run natural Kasilof River king salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All early-run Kasilof River anglers who wish to plan a head.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Allowing four or more days a week harvest of early run Kasilof kings. Rejected this because stock status of naturally produced early-run Kasilof king salmon may not support this level of additional harvest at this time.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Professional Guide Association (HQ-07F-128)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 226 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Increase bag limit for hatchery stock king salmon on Kasilof River as follows:

Two clipped fin kings per day allowed January 1 through June 30.
On days for wild fish - one clipped fin, one wild, or two clipped fin.

ISSUE: Kasilof River first run of kings, January 1 through June 30.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Loss of wild king strain.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes - maintains wild king stock, by reducing crossbreeding with hatchery fish on Crooked Creek and the Kasilof River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Extra pressure on the Kasilof River because two fish would be allowed, and anglers would have to fish longer to fill their bag limit.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Kasilof River Land Owners Association (HQ-07F-061)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Anchorage AC9

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 227 - 5 AAC 56.122(8)(a). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit fishing after retaining a king salmon as follows:

January 1 through July 31, when you keep a king, you put your rod up.

ISSUE: Kasilof River Catch and Release salmon fishing January 1 through July 31.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? It will hurt the resource by damaging fish and tiring them out.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes - Saves catch and release strain on kings.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Anyone who catches and releases.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Friends of Kasilof and Kasilof River Association (HQ-07F-319)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Anchorage AC9
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 228 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Designate portion of Kasilof River as a king salmon spawning sanctuary as follows:

Specifically designate the Kasilof River mainstem between the Sterling Highway Bridge and Tustumena Lake as a King salmon spawning sanctuary from July 1 through August 31.

ISSUE: New data on Kasilof late run King salmon has identified a significant population which spawns in the mainstream below Tustumena Lake. Current regulations do not allow sportfishing for king salmon in current mainstem spawning areas upstream from the Sterling Highway Bridge after June 30, but do not specifically identify the significance of these areas to escapement and may not provide adequate protection in the face of any potential future fisheries. Adequate protection of spawners is particularly important in the Kasilof in the absence of designated escapement goals or effective annual in-season monitoring.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Late run Kasilof King salmon escapement and yield will be at risk.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All fisheries that take Kasilof late run Kings will benefit from effective protection of spawning escapement.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo was rejected because it does not incorporate new information on the significance of mainstream spawning areas for late run Kasilof kings.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-157)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

U.S. F&W Service PC31

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 229 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Prohibit power boats on Kasilof River as follows:

No power boats above Old Kasilof landing.

ISSUE: The increased number of power boats used on the Kasilof River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Increased bank erosion and conflicts between drift boats and power boaters.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Sport fishing would be more enjoyable and safer without the power boats. Bank erosion will be less.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All Alaskans, tourists and users of the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Dipnetters.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Restrict motor size. Increased wake erodes my bank.

PROPOSED BY: David Carpenter

(HQ-07F-002)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Central Peninsula AC8
KRSA PC27
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 230 - 5 AAC 56.122(8)(B)(iv, v). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Restrict motorized use on portion on Kasilof River as follows:

Above Trujillos and below slack water all year, no fishing or dipnetting from powerboats on the Kasilof River.

ISSUE: Power boats on the Kasilof River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Bank erosion, Spawning beds disturbed.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No bank erosion or disturbance of spawning beds.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who fish or dipnet out of power boats.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Friends of Kasilof and Kasilof River (HQ-07F-318)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30

Central Peninsula AC8

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Anchorage AC9

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 231 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Prohibit fishing from boat, July 1 through August 15, in portion of Kasilof River as follows:

From July 1 – August 15, fishing from any boat is prohibited from the Sterling Highway Bridge upstream to the Slackwater Boat Ramp on the Kasilof River.

ISSUE: Illegal targeting of late run king salmon in the Upper Kasilof River during peak spawning time. High by-catch of late run king salmon in the upper Kasilof River during the first part of the traditional silver season. Typical Kasilof silver fishing methods of back-bouncing eggs have extremely high mortality on any fish caught as an extremely high percentage of fish are hooked in the gill region. Normal spawning habitat for king salmon and silver salmon " fishing" water in the upper Kasilof are normally only separated by a matter of a few feet.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued unknown impact upon late-run king salmon in the Kasilof River and continued illegal king fishing under the guise of fishing for other species, primarily silver salmon. Anecdotal evidence suggests later timing of the Kasilof late run king salmon in the present day than in the past years. Continued impact on early spawning late-run Kasilof king salmon in the upper river will only exacerbate this issue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The fish, ADF&G enforcement: enforcement issues of anglers targeting kings under the guise of "silver fishing" will be alleviated.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The small number of anglers that legitimately fish for silver salmon in early August in the Kasilof River. However, effort is usually very low during this timeframe as few silvers are present in this section of river before the August 15 date.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Complete closure of fishing in the area during this time: many sockeye still available to anglers and by having a “fishing from a boat” restriction in place, it still allows sockeye anglers to fish throughout this timeframe.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr. (HQ-07F-044)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

KRSA PC27

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 232 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Allow motorized use during king salmon season on the Kasilof River as follows:

Motors are allowed.

ISSUE: Repeal the motor prohibition during king salmon season on the Kasilof River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Public access on the Kasilof River is very inadequate.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Repealing the prohibition would save a lot of fuel each year by being able to launch at the bridge and return to bridge launch.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The state has failed to address the problem.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo.

PROPOSED BY: David Richards

(HQ-07F-468)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 233 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Allow anchoring of boats in portion of Kasilof River as follows:

Allow boats to drop anchor in this area for the sole purpose of netting a hooked king. All other lines in the boat should be in.

or

Allow non-guided boat's to anchor in this area while fishing.

ISSUE: The ban on anchoring of boats in the people hole area of the Kasilof River, while fishing.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Unnecessary stress is put on the king salmon that need to be released, thus possibly raising the mortality rate.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, lessen the mortality rate of foul hooked or native fish on hatchery fish only days.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Drift boat fishermen and/or guides, non guide drift boat rowers can better utilize the area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Since 90 percent of the fish run on the bank fishermen side of the river, I don't think anyone will suffer. Drift boats try to stay away out of courtesy anyway.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Michael Craig

(HQ-07F-463)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Richard Hahn PC13

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's

Association PC45

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 234 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Modify Kasilof River sockeye bag limit as follows:

In the Kasilof River, the daily bag limit and possession limit for sockeye salmon is 6 [3] fish. Liberalization that may occur is a daily bag limit to 12 [6] fish and a possession limit of 24 [12] fish.

ISSUE: A long history of “overescapement” of sockeye salmon into the Kasilof River. In most instances, when projections for exceeding the upper end of the OEG for Kasilof sockeye salmon are made, the vast majority of extra fish are passed along to the commercial salmon fishery via use of extra fishing time and the Kasilof River Special Harvest Area.

Overuse of the UCI commercial salmon fishery in the Kasilof section and the KRSHA places undue stress on the returns of late-run Kasilof king salmon, a stock that currently has no BEG in place.

In addition, there is no BEG / OEG in place for the Kasilof silver salmon run. Late season efforts to keep sockeye escapements at current levels impact the early portion of the Kasilof silver salmon run as well.

The excess fish should be made available to all user groups and extremely liberal limits should be put into place to encourage and allow sports and personal use fishermen to harvest a greater portion of these fish so that the impact on silvers and late-run kings are more limited by these “selective” fisheries.

Fishery managers claim that personal use (and sport effort) has not been an effective tool in staying within current management goals for Kasilof River sockeye salmon. By substantially increasing sport limits rather than simply increasing time / area fished, it is likely that more effort and subsequent harvest will take place.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued over-harvest of Kasilof River late-run king salmon by efforts to keep sockeye numbers in check and in some years, exceeding the upper end of the OEG for Kasilof River sockeye salmon.

There is also impact concern on the early-run Kasilof king salmon that have needed a number of regulatory changes in the fisheries by other user groups in recent years to help ensure meeting the BEG for these fish.

The early portion of the Kasilof River silver salmon run will continue to be hurt by extreme efforts in late season to keep sockeye escapements within established goals by utilizing the UCI commercial salmon fishery rather than more selective methods.

Anecdotal evidence suggests later timing of the Kasilof late-run king salmon in present day than in past years. Continued aggressive commercial fishing effort to keep sockeye

escapements in check will only hasten this issue.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kasilof River sports anglers, Kenai Peninsula businesses that will see an increase in usage of the Kasilof River sports sockeye fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Since impact on the UCI commercial fishery will likely be minor, no one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-047)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 235 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Open Chickaloon River to king salmon fishing as follows:

Chickaloon River - open to king salmon fishing from May 1 thru July. No more than one king 20 inches or longer may be retained per year.

ISSUE: Chickaloon is closed to the taking of king salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? No sportfisher will be able to retain a king salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Vernon Porter

(HQ-07F-208)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge PC19
Central Peninsula AC8

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 236 - 5 AAC 57.120(6)(e). General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify rainbow trout bag limits for Kenai River drainage lakes and ponds as follows:

Here is what it would say....(e) may be taken from January 1-December 31 in lakes and ponds of the Kenai River and Kenai lake Drainage; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length.

Eliminate entire "for the purpose of" subparagraph "stocked lakes and ponds" means Lake waters and flowing waters need to only be clarified. Don't always complicate things. This fishery is complicated enough already.

ISSUE: There is 'another' predicament. That dilemma is the inability for the board to realize that local Kenai Peninsula residents are once again being put on the back burner by being able to only retain 2 rainbow trout per day in several lakes in the Kenai River drainage system. That regulation can not be justified. It does not make sound biological sense. It does not "simplify matters" in such a complicated fishery. It only develops more animosity, antagonism, and hostility among users as it aggravates local residents who are struggling with other Kenai River regulations. To place all easily accessible lakes at a now 2 trout per day limit is unjustifiable, especially since most of the lake's tributaries are several miles from the main 'trophy fish area' which are miles from rainbow trout Kenai River entrance and exit and are not in concert with the small lake strain migration, especially when we differentiate between lake and flowing waters.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Many local anglers use the small lakes as an escape from the horrendous situation that has been allowed to develop on the Kenai River. Many local residents have been driven away from the Kenai River to only find 'homage' in the small Peninsula lakes. Two fish are most inadequate, especially since the average lake rainbow seldom exceeds 20 inches and most amateurs will never see a 3 or 4 pound rainbow taken from the smaller lakes because they do not exist, mainly because of fish over-population, a population of fish that need to be culled out. Also the regulation in no way has an effect on the 'trophy rainbows' in the region but rather a negative biological effect. A 4 to 6 pound rainbow in the smaller lakes is indeed a rare miracle catch. Most larger rainbows average around 22 inches or a pound and a half and most of those lakes will have grubby fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Of course my proposal improves the quality of the resource harvested. In the first place, and of elevated importance, it makes for some welcomed breathing room on the Kenai River by placing more anglers in the small lakes and lessening the pressure on the Kenai River where the real "trophy" rainbows live. Most of the lakes mentioned, in no way have as much effect on the 'trophy' fishery as the Kenai River hook and release pressure. That over-fished pressure on the bows could be almost eliminated by allowing more 'lake' excitement with quality as well and quantity lake rainbow fishing. To place a 2 rainbow trout limit on the small lakes show lack of

understanding of this whole Peninsula fishery. It has a negative effect. Instead of placing more anglers on these lakes, your regulation is driving them away because 2 rainbows on the dinner plate will not feed my family or even my worst appetite. If you are concerned about migrating bows like all of us are, fish migrating down the streams to the Kenai River would still be under the 2 fish limit (flowing waters) and continue to be protected during critical spawning with seasonal closures in those flowing waters while sending anglers to the lakes. Most folks that now fish the lakes do it for food. They want to eat the fish. Your regulation eliminates that.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? If my solution is adopted anglers in several categories would benefit. First and foremost, local residents would benefit and realize that they are still actually an important part of this well defined tourist ‘trap’ Kenai River anglers from around the state and some anglers from the rest of the USA would benefit by experiencing two important things: less traffic on the Kenai and some solitude on the lakes with a reason to not only enjoy nature but to be able to catch a stringer of 12-16 inch edible rainbows. No local anglers worth their salt eat Kenai River bows for a variety of reasons. Their poor taste after they have been sucking in salmon eggs in the fall is only one example. The realization that they just ate a ‘potential’ trophy is just another example.

Secondly, it would simplify the regulation and make it easier to digest, comply with and enforce. Protecting migrating bows in “flowing waters” to the Kenai River could be made more obvious and understandable.

Thirdly, after an extensive research with the ADFG statewide Harvest Surveys for the past several years, all of my deductions indicate to me that the lakes need more fishing pressure. A 2 fish limit will eliminate a gross number of anglers because most lake bow fishers do it for food while some, I agree do it for sport but not with the intense effort expected like we see on the Kenai. Even with the winter ice fishing effort that goes on here on the Peninsula very few fish are taken when one works the ADFG harvest survey numbers. To reduce the take to two will cause a problem in the future and discourage a whole group of potential anglers as well as intensify the Kenai River effort, something that we are desperately trying to eliminate. Very little effort will be recorded on the lakes if this 2 limit goes into effect and the harvest will decline to the point of reducing the quality since quantity will choke out what few lakes produce reasonable catchable fish. When one studies the data from the Statewide Harvest Survey, notice which lakes produce the best and most fish. This is the result of family effort mostly done by local residents who want a few fish to eat, not by trophy hunters. The people of the Kenai Peninsula and the state of Alaska will benefit with my proposal.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one is likely to suffer as long as Kenai Lake and Skilak Lake remain a 2 fish lake and close attention be paid to all “flowing waters”.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Keep the “trophy status” for rainbows in the entire Kenai River from the Kenai, if that. I think only 1 bow per year should ever be taken.

PROPOSED BY: Spencer DeVito

(HQ-07F-138)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 237 - 5 AAC 57.120(6)(E). General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify rainbow trout bag limits for Kenai River drainage lakes and ponds as follows:

(E) may be taken from January 1 - December 31, in stocked lakes and ponds of the Kenai River and Kenai Lake drainage; bag and possession limit of five fish, of which only one may be 20 inches or greater in length; for the purpose of this subparagraph, "stocked lakes and ponds" means Aurora Lake, Barbara Lake, Cabin Lake, Carter Lake, Cecille Lake, Chugach Estates Lakes, Douglas Lake, Elephant Lake, Island Lake, Longmere Lake, Loon Lake, Rainbow Lake, Scout Lake, Sport Lake, Thetis Lake, Tirmore Lake, and Vagt Lake;

ISSUE: The problem is local residents only being able to retain 2 rainbow trout per day in approx. 18 lakes in the Kenai river drainage, most people would like to be able to keep enough fish to eat. The 2005 change in regulations to simplify the regulations. Causes more confusion than the original regulations. Easily accessible lakes along the road systems, Egomen, Kelly, Peterson, Watson used by local residents are now on a 2 rainbow trout limit, they are 30 miles up small tributaries from the Kenai river trophy fish areas.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Putting rainbow trout in these small lakes and ponds in a trophy fish status, is not fair to local residents who like to catch fish to eat. Two small rainbows is not enough for 3 or 4 persons to eat.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This change would not hurt the quality of any fishery. Most of the lakes are 20 to 30 miles upstream from the Kenai River Trophy rainbow fishery in the Moose River Drainage, most lakes effected are 20 to 30 miles up from the Kenai River, Harvey Lake is 35 miles up Killy River from the Kenai River. Fishing would be done by use of rod and reel, hook & line, not gillnets or dipnets and would have a negligible effect on a sustainable yield fishery. Fish migrating down the streams to the Kenai River would still be under the 2 fish limit (flowing waters) and be protected during spawning with the seasonal closures in flowing waters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All persons who like to sport fish for a few small rainbows to eat. It would make the regulations easier to understand & comply with. The limit would stay at 2 rainbows in flowing waters, protecting migrating trout downstream to the trophy fish areas in the Kenai River. ADFG statewide harvest survey 2001 thru 2005 indicate a total of 540 rainbows harvested per year from these 18 or 20 lakes total - under a 5 fish limit. These lakes are fished mostly by local residents, ice fishing during the winter. They are not over harvested. Under the new present regulation of 2 rainbows, less than 200 fish would be harvested, if people continue to fish, which they would not if the limit stays at 2 fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Dick Dykema

(HQ-07F-042)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 238 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Expand rainbow trout spawning closure from the outlet of Skilak Lake to the Upper Killey River to include Dolly Varden as follows:

No fishing from April 15 - June 11 on the Kenai River from 1/4 mile of the outlet of Skilak Lake downstream to the upper (northern) edge of the Upper Killey River.

ISSUE: Anglers targeting spawning rainbow trout via a loophole that allows fishing for Dolly Varden between Outlet of Skilak Lake down to the Upper Killey River section of the Kenai River between April 14 - June 11.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Spawning closure for rainbow trout is being exploited by those fishing for Dolly Varden which threatens the larger, spawning population of rainbow trout in the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Preserves and protects spawning Kenai River rainbow trout for future anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All ethical anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those that are pretending to be fishing for Dolly Varden in this high density area of spawning rainbow trout.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A shorter closed season such as May 1 - June 14 but we were concerned about allowing more opportunity in this area based on not having the proper window closure to protect the rainbows and about the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Swan Sanctuary being closed during the matching time of April 14 - June 14 (three day difference).

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Professional Guide Association (HQ-07F-408)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Steve Lambert PC2
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing AC3
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 239 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Reduce spawning closure season for rainbow trout as follows:

Move the beginning date of the spawning season closure from May 1 back to May 15. The ending date can remain the same (June 11).

ISSUE: Rainbow trout spawning closures are overly restrictive and result in unnecessary loss of sport fishing opportunity. Above and below Skilak Lake between 75% to 80% of rainbow trout spawn during the period of time from 15 May and June 11. Current regulations prohibit fishing for all species in the closed waters of Upper Kenai River from May 1 to June 11. This results in a net loss of two weeks of sustainable fishing opportunity.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued loss of angling opportunity for no measurable biological benefits.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen who enjoy early season fishing for rainbow trout.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Andy Szczesny

(HQ-07F-215)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Steve Lambert PC2

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 240 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit all sport fishing during the rainbow trout spawning closure as follows:

Leave the entire fishery closed until June 15.

ISSUE: The harassment of spawning rainbow trout before the June 15th opening date. At present, the season is open for Dolly Varden and other species in the area below Skilak Lake on the Kenai River prior to the opening for rainbow trout. Both unguided and guided anglers are targeting rainbows during spawning time rather than catching allowed species resulting in unnecessary mortality. Many guides are offering trips in the early spring effectively targeting spawning rainbows.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The rainbow population will suffer as fish are repeatedly caught while trying to spawn in low water.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will protect rainbow populations from overexploitation.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All anglers will benefit from protecting spawning rainbows.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A few guided and non-guided anglers will lose fishing days, primarily from Memorial Day to June 15.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered targeted enforcement but that is impractical given the shortage of rangers and other enforcement officers. Also, you cannot keep from catching rainbows.

PROPOSED BY: Ted Wellman

(HQ-07F-056)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
U.S. F&W Service PC31

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 241 - 5 AAC 57.120(6). General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit removing rainbow trout from the water during spawning closure as follows:

(6) rainbow/steelhead trout

(F) from May 2 – June 10, rainbow/steelhead trout may not be possessed or retained; trout caught must be released immediately; a person may not remove a rainbow/steelhead trout from the water;

ISSUE: Regulations prohibit sport fishing for rainbow/steelhead trout in the flowing waters of the Kenai River drainage area from May 2 – June 10 to protect these stocks during the spawning season. The flowing waters from the mouth of the Kenai River upstream to Skilak Lake, and the waters of Skilak Lake within a one-half mile radius of the Kenai River Inlet are open to fishing for Dolly Varden year-round. However in 2005 and 2006, anglers were observed catching and releasing rainbow trout while fishing for Dolly Varden during the rainbow/steelhead trout spawning closure. Many of these anglers were removing rainbow trout from the water before releasing them. Prohibiting anglers from removing rainbow/steelhead trout from the water during the May 2 – June 10 spawning closure may reduce mortality of these incidentally-caught trout during a time period when the spawning fish may be more susceptible to handling mortality. Similar regulations prohibiting the removal of rainbow/steelhead trout from the water exist for other streams and rivers in the Cook Inlet area.

In 2006 the department issued an emergency order prohibiting the removal of rainbow/steelhead trout from the water during the spawning closure.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Rainbow trout will continue to experience unnecessary handling mortality during a spawning closure.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The rainbow trout populations in the effected area will benefit by reduction in handling mortality during a period closed to protect the stocks during the spawning season.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Anglers wanting to have a photograph taken of a rainbow trout removed from the water during the spawning closure period.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Closing the area to fishing for Dolly Varden during the May 2-June 10 rainbow trout spawning closure.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-281)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition

Cooper Landing AC3

PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

KRSA PC27

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 242 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit removing rainbow trout or Dolly Varden from the water in catch and release fishing as follows:

In the Kenai River, rainbow trout/Dolly Varden may not be removed from the water after they are caught if they are to be released.

ISSUE: In the Kenai River area, poor handling of rainbow trout/Dolly Varden during catch and release fishing where trout are removed from the water for lengthy photo sessions, etc is causing increased fish injury and mortality.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will be a higher incidence of rainbow trout/Dolly Varden mortality and injury.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it will improve the health of the fish and the quality of the fishing by reducing trout injury and mortality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All rainbow trout/Dolly Varden in Kenai will benefit. Also anglers will benefit by getting to experience healthier fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one is likely to suffer.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions have been considered.

PROPOSED BY: Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-430)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing AC3

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

UCIDA PC30

KRSA PC27

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 243 - 5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 57.123. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Require single, barbless hooks in Kenai River upstream of Lower Killey River from August 21 - June 10 as follows:

Only single, barbless hooks may be used in the flowing waters of the Kenai River drainage from the mouth of the Lower Killey River upstream from August 21 through June 10 each year.

ISSUE: Unnecessary mortality and excessive physical damage caused to Kenai River drainage trout and char by use of barbed hooks.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued mortality caused by removal of barbed hooks; continued excessive physical damage to trout and char caused by the removal of barbed hooks. To continue as is provides fodder for anti-fishing groups who claim fishing is barbaric.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. This will result in fewer fish losing parts of their anatomy and will likely increase survival of released fish. Fish may live longer, and larger fish may be the result (quality). Fishermen taking pictures of trout and char they ultimately release will have fish that are more likely to have complete mandibles and less-scarred mouths. People travel from all over the world to catch Kenai trout and char, there is no need to continue to mutilate the fish excessively through use of barbed hooks.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All trout and char anglers will benefit from increased survival of released fish. Those who value the aesthetic appearance of unscarred fish for photos will also benefit. This will also serve to appease (to a degree) those who view sport fishing as barbaric as the fish will no longer be so heavily damaged during release.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People intent on killing a legal fish may have to work a little harder to land a legal fish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? There is no other solution to this problem other than eliminating fishing for char and trout in the Kenai River drainage.

PROPOSED BY: George Krumm

(HQ-07F-348)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
Francis Estalilla PC36
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Central Peninsula AC8
U.S. F&W Service PC31

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 244 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Require barbless hooks for rainbow trout or Dolly Varden in the Kenai River as follows:

Any angler targeting rainbow trout or Dolly Varden in the Kenai must use barbless hooks or hooks with pinched barbs, with a hook gap no greater than 3/8”.

ISSUE: Rainbow trout in the Kenai are being mangle through catch and release fishing using barbed hooks.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will continue to be injured, damaged, and eyeless trout.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, the rainbow trout resource will improve in health and aesthetics. The rainbow trout that are managed to get bigger to produce a trophy fishery for anglers will not only be big, but they will have all of their parts intact.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The rainbow trout in the Kenai are the primary beneficiaries. Secondly, anglers will benefit by catching an intact fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions have been considered.

PROPOSED BY: Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-431)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Anchorage AC9
U.S. F&W Service PC31
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 245 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict gear for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden in portion of Kenai River as follows:

Ban the use of treble hooks, barbed hooks, and any hook larger than No. 6 size for fishing for rainbow trout and Dolly Varden in the Kenai River above it's intersection with the Moose River. Use of smaller barbless hooks allow a good fishery and less injury to released fish.

ISSUE: Injury and mortality to rainbow trout in the catch and release fishery in the Kenai River. A large number of rainbow trout are injured and killed due to oversized barbed hooks in the primarily catch and release fishery for rainbow trout in the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The problem will continue and more fish will suffer injury and mortality through the use of hooks not needed for a good fishery.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This change will improve the quality of the fishery, decrease incidental mortality, and decrease debilitating injuries to fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All anglers would benefit from improved quality of the fishery and lower fish mortality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered training programs on how to handle and release fish and increased enforcement but neither alternative addressed the key issue.

PROPOSED BY: Ted Wellman

(HQ-07F-057)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30

U.S. F&W Service PC31
KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 246 - 5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. No fishing from anchored vessel in the swan sanctuary area, Skilak Lake /Kenai River from June 15 – December 31 as follows:

Amend this regulation to provide the following:

No fishing from an anchored vessel from the swan sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign at approximately river mile 47 from June 15 - December 31.

ISSUE: Fishing from an anchored vessel from the Swan Sanctuary sign at the outlet of Skilak Lake to the corresponding swan sanctuary sign at approximately river mile 47.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued boat congestion in main river channels will cause safety concerns and user conflicts. This is largely a catch-and-release fishery. Anglers that hook trophy sized rainbow and remain on anchor cause unnecessary stress to the fish and increase likelihood of mortality.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, decrease user conflict, prevents anchoring in braided, high traffic gravel areas below Skilak and eliminates a significant safety concern.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, all users will have equal fishing opportunity and safety will improve.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: John Sanderson

(HQ-07F-371)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 247 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Eliminate size restriction on Dolly Varden for Kenai River as follows:

Dolly Varden - Entire Kenai River System - 1 per day, 1 in possession, no size restrictions.

ISSUE: The regulation prohibiting the retention of Kenai River Dolly Varden greater than 18 inches on the lower river (16 inches on the upper Kenai) and restricting the catch limit to 1 fish.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There are numerous sport use anglers that have in the past, enjoyed taking the occasional fish home for personal consumption by their families, but they cannot feed a family of 5 with a single 16 or 18 inch fish. Alaskans that like the option of keeping and eating their catch may feel disenfranchised.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? There is no good biological reason to have curtailed our right to keep and eat Dolly Varden larger than 16 inches. The Dolly Varden numbers in the Kenai are very healthy and have had no trouble sustaining the harvest by a relatively small number of keep and each fisherman. Further more, we share salmon as food source with Dolly Varden (Dolly Varden eat juvenile salmon and eggs), over population could damage salmon stocks.

As you can see by the attached, Kenai River sport fish harvest by species, 1977-2005 the Kenai River has had no trouble sustaining a reasonable harvest of Dolly Varden.

Prior to the 2005 BOF changes to regulations, during 2000-2004 anglers harvested an average of about 6,000 Dolly Varden when the regulations would allow anglers two fish per day with one of those allowed to be over 20" in length per day. ADFG data states a total of 4,300 Dolly Varden were harvested from the Kenai River with the one small fish per day regulation introduced for the 2005 season. The historical (1977-2005) long term angler harvest of Dolly Varden from the Kenai River is three times this value (over 12,000 fish per year).

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Alaskan anglers that enjoy taking the occasional Dolly Varden home for personal consumption by their families.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? I think the only people who would be upset about changing this regulation are those who don't see Dolly Varden as a food source and like to force their own moral code on responsible Alaskans.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Dolly Varden - Entire Kenai River System - 1 per day up to 18 inches, only 5 per year may be over 18 inches and recorded on the fishing license. Rejected because this option is more restrictive than original proposal and

would restrict food supply from families wanting to consume Dolly Varden as a food source.

PROPOSED BY: Philip Brower

(HQ-07F-102)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and Game

Advisory Committee AC3

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

U.S. F&W Service PC31

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 248 - 5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Increase the bag limit for Arctic Char in the Cooper Lake as follows:

Under Arctic Char/Dolly Varden "in lakes and ponds" add: Cooper Lake...5 per day / 5 in possession only (one) over 20" or longer.

ISSUE: Cooper Lake is the largest clear water lake in the Kenai River Watershed and supports the only viable Arctic Char population. A 2003 mark and recapture study resulted in a population estimate of 94,000 Arctic Char dominated by 8-11 in. fish. Recent harvest information indicates less than 35 fish harvested annually, due in part to restricted access and the low daily bag limit. The current bag limit of 2 fish contributes to the lack of effort on a species that can withstand more harvest. We propose raising the daily bag limit to 5 fish per day.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Harvest opportunities on Cooper Lake Arctic Char will remain limited.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen who would like to fish Cooper Lake but have been hesitant because of log bag limits.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-339)

FAVOR	OPPOSE
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8	UCIDA PC30
Anchorage AC9	U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41	
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	
KRSA PC27	

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 249 - 5 AAC 57.121(6). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Amend this regulation to decrease the daily bag limit for lake trout in Hidden Lake as follows:

(6) in Hidden Lake, the bag and possession limit for lake trout is **one** [TWO] fish, with no size limit.

ISSUE: Lake trout populations generally exist at low densities, have slow growth rates, mature at a relatively old age, low fecundity, alternate-year spawning regimes and strict habitat requirements. Due to these life history characteristics, lake trout can be over exploited even at relatively low harvest rates. Consequently, many Alaska lake trout fisheries are conservatively managed yield-based fisheries. In these fisheries a general lake area model is used to estimate annual yield potential (sustainable harvest) and regulations are designed to ensure annual harvest do not exceed the yield potential. The lake area model indicates the sustainable yield for Hidden Lake is approximately 400 lake trout per year.

The estimated lake trout harvest from Hidden Lake exceeded the estimated yield potential for 25 of the last 29 years. The abundance, size or age structure of the lake trout population of Hidden Lake is not presently known nor is the historical size and age structure precisely known. Recent angler and department observations indicate yield at this roadside fishery may not allow the lake trout population in Hidden Lake to grow to historic, abundance, size and age structure as represented with the low numbers of lake trout in angler catches and lack of larger lake trout being caught by anglers. Although the most recent harvest estimate in 2005 was 216 lake trout, it is likely the current regulation of two lake trout per day will permit future yields that would exceed the estimated sustainable yield of approximately 400 fish if the bag limit is not reduced.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The lake trout population in Hidden Lake may be over harvested.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, more conservative regulations will allow for the lake trout harvest to stay at level that can be supported by the population and may allow the population to mature thus providing larger sized fish for anglers to catch.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The lake trout population of Hidden Lake.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Hidden Lake anglers wanting to retain two lake trout per day.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-282)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge PC19

UCIDA PC30

Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 250 - 5 AAC 57.121(1)(I). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 57.122(4)(F) Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow up to five lines to fish for northern pike fishing in Arc Lake and Scout Lake as follows:

5 AAC 57.121(1)(I)

(I) in **Arc Lake**, Mackey Lakes, Derks Lake, Sevena Lake, Cisca Lake, Union Lake, and the unnamed lakes on Tote Road, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice;

5 AAC 57.122(4)

(F) in Scout Lake, five lines may be used to fish for northern pike through the ice;

ISSUE: Northern pike were discovered in Scout Lake in September 2005 and in Arc Lake during 2000. Northern pike are not native to the Kenai Peninsula and were likely introduced to Scout and Arc lakes illegally. Adding Arc and Scout lakes to the regulations which liberalize the number of lines an angler can use while fishing through the ice for northern pike will assist the department in their efforts to reduce these populations of northern pike. This liberalization was allowed by the department's emergency order authority during winters of 2006 and 2007. This proposal is housekeeping in nature.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? ADFG will continue to issue an emergency order to liberalize the number of lines ice fishermen can use to target northern pike in Arc and Scout lakes.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers will likely increase their success targeting northern pike and the department will be assisted with the effort to reduce northern pike on the Kenai Peninsula.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-283)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory
Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 251 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow up to five lines to fish for northern pike fishing in Stormy Lake as follows:

The new regulation would allow for five lines per person to be fished as long as the only species retained while fishing five lines is northern pike. In other words, if you are fishing more than two lines per person, you are not allowed to be in possession of any other species. Any fish other than pike, caught while fishing more than two lines must be returned to the water immediately.

ISSUE: The need for an increase in the number of lines a sport fisherman can use to harvest Pike on Stormy Lake. (Located in Captain Cook State Park on the Kenai Peninsula)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Overtime fewer anglers will invest the time and financial resources required to harvest pike from Stormy Lake. Stormy Lake is a long drive from most places on the Central Kenai Peninsula (30 minutes from Kenai alone) and many anglers, like myself, find it frustrating to invest the time and gas money involved only to be allowed to fish two lines per person. Though pike have invaded several stocked lakes on the Kenai Peninsula, Stormy Lake is the only lake with a two line-per-fisherman limit for pike. The result of less fishing pressure on Stormy Lake will likely lead to greater numbers of pike. More pike will mean an increase in the number of native species consumed in Stormy Lake and potentially the Swanson River Drainage as well, thus having a devastating impact upon both local sport and commercial fishermen.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal should increase the number of pike harvested. Since pike are a non-native and invasive species, this proposal would benefit the native species not only in Stormy Lake whose numbers have suffered since pike were illegally introduced, but add an additional layer of protection to the entire Swanson River system as well.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen, commercial fisherman and law enforcement officers should all benefit from this proposal. Pike fishermen will benefit because an increase to five lines per person should result in an increase in the number of pike harvested. Greater catches of pike should serve as an incentive for fishermen to invest the time and financial resources needed to make the long drive out to Stormy Lake. Fishermen who target char, salmon and trout should also benefit as the number of pike preying on these sport fish are reduced in Stormy Lake. Commercial fishermen should benefit because the Swanson River drainage is a key contributor to the sustainability of local runs of reds and silvers. If pike continue to make their way into the Swanson River, as it appears that they already have (see attached testimony), this could have a devastating biological and economical impact on both local sport and commercial fishermen. Law enforcement officers will also benefit because this proposal will create a

uniform number of lines allowed for pike on local lakes, thus reducing confusion among fishermen. This proposal can also serve as an excellent opportunity for sport fishermen who enjoy pursuing and consuming pike to join forces with local biologists to help curtail pike population on the peninsula.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one should suffer if this proposal is adopted. Those who enjoy fishing for char, salmon and trout on Stormy Lake will still be allowed to fish their two lines and retain their catch like any other lake. In fact, the opportunities to catch these species should increase over the years if the pike population in Stormy Lake is reduced. The idea here is to kill as many pike as possible in order to keep them from spreading throughout the Swanson River System

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered the possibility of incorporating language in this proposal regarding a minimum size or style of hook (1/0 treble hook or smelt hook) that could be used to discourage the bycatch of other species in the lake. I rejected this due to the fact that it would only cause an additional strain on law enforcement officers by once again creating inconsistency in the regulations among various "pike lakes" on the peninsula. In addition, my experience has been that bycatch is very rare when "appropriate pike bait" such as whole troll herring or hooligan are used.

PROPOSED BY: Bryan Copenhaver

(HQ-07F-081)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory
Committee AC3

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula
Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 252 - 5 AAC 56.120 (7). General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area; and 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit releasing any northern pike while fishing in the Kenai Peninsula as follows:

It is illegal to release alive any sport, commercial, personal use, or subsistence caught northern pike to any waters of the Kenai Peninsula.

ISSUE: The problem is the invasion and the proliferation of northern pike in Kenai Peninsula waters of the Kenai Peninsula.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Northern pike will likely change the ecosystem and the species composition of resident Kenai Peninsula fish. This could result in a loss of millions of dollars.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? The quality and quantity of fish resources presently harvested is unique and highly beneficial to peninsula residents. We seek to maintain this rich resource.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Almost everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those people who believe that northern pike are more valuable than other resident species of the Kenai Peninsula.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Increasing the penalties for those who introduce invasive species illegally. Also, fishing derbies to target northern pike. I intend to pursue these alternatives too.

PROPOSED BY: Natalee Vanderford

(HQ-07F-021)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 253 - 5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Close fishing from 100 yards above ferry cable to 25 yards below cable on Kenai as follows:

Stop fishing from 100 yards above ferry cable down stream to 25 yards below cable (from boats).

ISSUE: Fishing from boats up stream from the ferry cable to the down stream end of the island approx 100 yards to down stream of ferry cable approx 25 yards.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Sooner or later these boats will cause an accident and the ferry can only go where the cable goes and cannot maneuver some time there boats anchor on close or 25 yards up stream.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Potential victims of boating accidents.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Charles Owen

(HQ-07F-194)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 254 - 5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Increase size of designated youth fishing area on the Kenai River as follows:

This area should be at least twice to three times the size. The sign should read - "this area reserved for children 12 and under when present" i.e. if no kids are present - anyone can fish in this area.

ISSUE: Near Cooper Landing on the Kenai River there is a designated fishing area for kids under 12 (near ferry) - this area is too small and needs to be expanded.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? This area is overcrowded with more than two kids trying to fish. I am convinced that some children will get injured due to all the hooks flying in this small area.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This will improve the quality of the experience for children hoping to catch a salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? I think everyone who fishes this area would benefit if no children are present - anyone can fish in this location - and if kids are present the adults would benefit also as they would be a safer distance away from the kids.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Jack Storer

(HQ-07F-311)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge PC19

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 255 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Increase size and bag limits for jack kings in Kenai River as follows:

Amend the regulation such that the allowable limits for king salmon in the Kenai River are 10 fish less than 20 inches in length, 1 fish per day between 20 and 28 inches in length, one per day greater than 28 inches in length. If a fish greater than 28 inches in length are included in the annual limit

ISSUE: The smaller age-4 king salmon in the return are frequently released by anglers and are not harvest in proportion to their abundance. As a result, numbers of these small fish are increasing over time. However, these smaller kings are almost entirely males which do not significantly contribute to the reproduction potential of the population. Fishery selection which shifts the age composition toward these small fish will reduce production, yield, and numbers of large kings over the long term.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Twenty-eight-inch limit will help balance harvest rates across the size range of the run. Currently, small fish are harvested at a lesser rate and this is likely contributing to an increased incidence of small fish in the run. Current bag limits also result in people releasing injured small fish that they would otherwise be able to keep. Recently-published scientific literature indicates that large differential harvest rates risk genetic population changes that can negatively affect future productivity and yield. This is an effective method for ensuring harvest proportional to abundance.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal will simplify sport fishing regulations by eliminating unnecessary restrictions. This new regulation will be in alignment with current biological data that suggest this component of the return is being underutilized relative to their abundance.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers fishing the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? We considered recommending no change to these regulations, however, the data is clear and compelling that additional sport fishing opportunity can be realized while still being consistent with biologically sound management.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Sportfishing Association (HQ-07F-151)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and

Coalition PC9

Jim Johnson PC14

UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.

PC52

KRSA PC27

Game Advisory Committee

AC3

Central Peninsula AC8

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's

Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 256 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Delete bag limit for king salmon under 28 inches on Kenai River as follows:

Anglers can retain any king salmon under 28 inches on the Kenai River without having to consider these salmon as part of their daily bag limit.

ISSUE: The excessive propagation of immature male king salmon in the Kenai River. This problem is due to the one fish daily bag limit which causes anglers to release the immature king salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We will continue to have way too many "jack" king salmon returning to the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? The larger mature male king salmon will be better able to pass-on their superior genetic qualities to future salmon runs.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen and tourism.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? None.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: James Karl Johnson

(HQ-07F-077)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 257 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Increase size and bag limits for jack kings in Kenai River as follows:

King salmon January 1 - July 31 under 30"/1 per day/1 in possession
King salmon January 1 - June 30 over 30"/under 44"/over 55" 1 per day/1 in possession
King salmon July 1 - July 31 over 30" 1 per day/1 in possession
Seasonal limit 2 under 30"/2 over 30"

ISSUE: The size limit for jack kings is now 10 under 20 inches, these jacks are very distinctive and easy to identify and most are over 20 inches and run up to about 30 inches in length. The next year older fish are distinctly larger and are mixed male and female.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We are doing a good job of protecting the large kings, and allowing a distinct run of kings to be under utilized, and it's possible that these jacks are the cause for the reduced size of the average king caught on the river now. I've fished the river for 35 years, and the number of large kings caught is down and the number of jacks caught and released while trying to get a big one has increased tremendously.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It would increase the opportunity to keep the abundant jacks for the table and encourage more catch and release of the bigger kings, since there would be the opportunity to take home something for the table. Now they have to release several of these jacks a day trying for bigger one

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All king fishermen that enjoy fishing and eating kings, and if we reduce the numbers of these small breeder males we might see an increase in the number of the large kings and help restore the river back to the glory and fame that used to be real, rather than the glory and fame it now only enjoys because of our tremendous advertising campaign.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Kings under 30" 2 per day no annual limit. I don't believe that the ADF&G has any idea how many jacks there are and haven't considered this problem, so I don't feel they would support a large bag limit. The guides log book might reflect a large number of kings released but it won't state that most were under 30", so without that data, one could surmise that we are releasing a lot of big ones. And this size king would be counted as a red by the sonar counter.

PROPOSED BY: Robert Estes (HQ-07F-070)

FAVOR **OPPOSE**

Jim Johnson PC14
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 258 - 5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; and 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area. Increase the jack king salmon size limit from 20" to 25" in Cook Inlet freshwaters as follows:

A total annual limit of 5 king salmon 25" or longer may be taken from fresh waters of Cook Inlet.

ISSUE: The 20" minimum size limit - on retaining Kenai Peninsula king salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Kenai Peninsula king salmon 1 - 3 pounds will continue to be required to be released.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, this proposal will allow more angler to retain (midget) King salmon without validating their license.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All Kenai Peninsula king salmon anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A 27" or 28" length. Some people may feel a king salmon weighing five-seven pounds should be validated on license.

PROPOSED BY: Tim D. Hiner and David Richards (HQ-07F-345)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 259 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify bag limit to allow retention of hatchery stock king salmon in the Kenai River drainage as follows:

In addition to the daily and possession limit on the Kenai River of one king salmon daily, an angler may retain any king salmon 20” or longer that has a missing adipose fin with a healed scar. The adipose-clipped king must be recorded as such on the angler’s license and will count only against the annual limit of five adult king salmon annually from the Southcentral Region.

ISSUE: Straying of hatchery-produced king salmon from other area rivers (predominantly Kasilof) into the Kenai River drainage. Hatchery king salmon plants have been reduced in the Kasilof as a direct result of the straying issue. This proposal will help remove some of these strays from the Kenai River drainage.

Currently, other than reducing hatchery king plants in other watersheds, there is little way to reduce the number penetrating into the Kenai River watershed.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Mixing of Kenai River wild Chinook with stray hatchery-origin Chinook may negatively impact the genetics of the Kenai River drainage stocks.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, by essentially making a stray hatchery king salmon in the Kenai a “free” fish in terms of daily and annual river limit, anglers and managers will have a tool to decrease the likelihood of interbreeding with wild Kenai king salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kenai River wild king stocks, the additional data obtained from license data will be beneficial to fisheries managers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, but it will require modification of the printed license to have a column for “marked” and “unmarked” fish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-053)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Anchorage AC9

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Central Peninsula AC8

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 260 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify bag limit to allow retention of hatchery stock king salmon in the Kenai River drainage as follows:

The new regulation would say, “If an angler catches a king salmon on the Kenai River and it has a clipped adipose fin with a healed over scar, he would be allowed to keep the fish without it counting towards one of his two Kenai River king salmon per person. The fish would still have to be tagged as one of the five king salmon allowed from the Cook Inlet waters, since it is a natural Cook Inlet fish. There would have to be new designation for marking the fishing license to distinguish the fish as one caught on the Kenai but as an invasive fish.

ISSUE: I would like the board to address the non-native king salmon spawning in tributaries of the Kenai River. According to Fish & Game, there are king salmon from the Crooked Creek hatchery enhanced run that stray into the Kenai River. These stray king salmon can be identified by the lack of an adipose fin with a healed scar where the fin was clipped off. The concern I want addressed is to create regulations which will reward Kenai River anglers to remove these stray king salmon from the Kenai River which will reduce the possibility of a hatchery raised salmon from spawning in the Kenai River watershed where only genetically unique native king salmon should spawn. Current daily, possession, and annual limits for king salmon in the Kenai River are set up in such a way that anglers are encouraged to release such fish back into the river.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? As more of these invasive fish spawn with the Kenai fish, it changes the genetic make-up of the native fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Without a hatchery in place on the Kasilof River, there would be no hatchery fish to invade the Kenai River. Since the enhancement of the Kasilof River king salmon, the Kenai has seen salmon that would not be there naturally. This proposal aims to keep the Kenai River’s genetic strain of king salmon as pure as possible without spending additional money or resources.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The main human benefactors will be the anglers who catch a fish on the Kenai River and are allowed to keep it, without affecting their Kenai River catch record. In the long term, all users of the Kenai River will ultimately benefit, if we keep non native fish from the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one would suffer as a result of this proposal.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Anglers could keep fishing on the Kenai River after keeping a king salmon with a healed over adipose scar. As an angler I would love this, but there could be issues with enforcement and other people might have some objection to the proposal written this way. I believe that the way it is written, there could be very little, if any opposition from anyone. Biologically it makes sense. Resident

anglers that want to kill their two fish every season would ultimately get a “free fish”, and guides could encourage their clients to keep these fish as well.

PROPOSED BY: Nathan Corr

(HQ-07F-188)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mat-Valley AC10
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC
41

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 261 - 5 AAC 57.120(2)(a),(i). General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Eliminate Kenai River early-run king salmon slot limit as follows:

5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 57.121. - 5 AAC 57.123 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the following are the general seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means that apply to sport fishing for finfish in the Kenai River Drainage Area:

(1) salmon may be landed only with the aid of a landing net or by hand

(2) king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, as follows:

- (A) may be taken from only from January 1 - July 31, in the Kenai River from its mouth upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake and in the Moose River from its confluence with the Kenai River upstream to the northernmost edge of the Sterling Highway Bridge, with a bag and possession limit of one fish, as follows:
[(i.) FROM JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, FROM ITS MOUTH UPSTREAM TO THE OUTLET OF SKILAK LAKE, AND FROM JULY 1 - JULY 14, FROM THE SOLDOTNA BRIDGE UPSTREAM TO THE OUTLET OF SKILAK LAKE AND IN MOOSE RIVER FROM ITS CONFLUENCE WITH THE KENAI RIVER UPSTREAM TO THE NORTHERNMOST EDGE OF THE STERLING HIGHWAY BRIDGE, ONLY KING SALMON THAT ARE LESS THAN 44 INCHES IN LENGTH OF 55 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH MAY BE RETAINED,]

ISSUE: Repeal slot limit for king salmon on the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The slot limit for early run king salmon on the Kenai River has not worked as intended. It was originally intended to afford protection for the most common size and age classes (44 to 55 inches may not be retained) of the return. In fact this regulation may be directing harvest in an undesirable way by encouraging the retention of fecund female king salmon less than 44 inches while requiring the release of larger males.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal is of benefit to the long-term management of the king salmon resource of the Kenai River. Escapement quality will be positively influence by removing and regulation that inadvertently results in a disproportionate percentage of females being harvest.

Recent run data indicates that numbers of large fish vary naturally and stock composition has improved from a period of low numbers of 5-ocean kings independent of the effects of the slot limit.

The regulation has also produced unintended consequences that may risk future yield. Fishery data indicates that the slot limit has concentrated harvest on fish under the slot size which include a large percentage of 4-ocean females.

Slot limit has skewed size-specific harvest rates and overcompensated for the problem it was intended to address.

Implementation has made size-specific harvest rate differential worse which is directly contrary to the sustainable fisheries policy.

Slot limit was a unique experimental approach to king salmon management that was developed for bass fishery management and has never been used for salmon. The Kenai should not be a test case for risky fishing regulation experiments.

Slot limit has also reduced effort and harvest rates and increased the likelihood of exceeding the BEG and sacrificing future yield.

Earlier use of bait in large run years is not an effective alternative for balancing harvest rates because anglers continue to release larger numbers of smaller fish and smaller fish likely suffer a higher rate of catch and release mortality on bait.

Slot limit has unnecessarily reduced harvest opportunities and proven extremely unpopular with many resident and non-resident anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users of the king salmon resources of the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Continuing this management paradigm as suggested by the Department for several more spawning calycles. This was rejected because there is no biological reason, nor any sampling evidence, to suggest this approach is beneficial to king salmon management. This was a poorly conceived management strategy that needs to be removed.

PROPOSED BY: Andy Szczesny

(HQ-07F-218)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Anchorage AC9

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 262 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Eliminate Kenai River early-run king salmon slot limit as follows:

The daily bag limit on the Kenai River is one king salmon per day, with no size restriction, and a two fish seasonal bag limit.

ISSUE: The unfair lack of opportunity for anglers to harvest Kenai early - run king salmon due to a slot limit restriction.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We will continue to promote our Kenai late - run king salmon fishing; this will continue to increase the angler pressure during the month of July on the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will help spread-out angler fishing pressure throughout the Kenai River king salmon season.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen and tourism.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those sport fishermen who prefer catch-and-release quality fishing.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A return to bait fishing and multiple hooks, but because of the early-run needing more protection I rejected that situation.

PROPOSED BY: Joshua Caleb Johnson (HQ-07F-076)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41	Kenai/Soldotna AC7	Anchorage AC9
	Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	UCIDA PC30
		U.S. F&W Service PC31

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 263 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Amend the slot limit season for early-run king salmon on the Kenai River as follows:

Soldotna bridge upstream to Skilak Lake.....January 1 - July 31 [July 14] 1 per day / 1 in possession...must be less than 44" or 55" or longer.

ISSUE: The BOF and ADF&G recognize that preserving the size composition of the Kenai River early run Chinook escapement is an important aspect of fishery management. Their application of the slot limit is applied through the first two weeks of July above the Soldotna Bridge. One ADF&G study indicated that mainstream early run Chinook comprised 28% of the total, with nearly half of those spawning between the Soldotna Bridge and Skilak Lake. The department also estimates that early run spawn timing generally occurs between July 19-22. Thus, harvest issues are exacerbated upstream where the populations subjected to harvest are stocks that spawn in proximity to known early run spawning tributaries. Additional pressure on these early run mainstream spawners may affect size and genetic distribution.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Some size classes of early run Chinook salmon will be harvested at higher rates.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Helps to insure that the escapement size distribution is similar to the return.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone, because of increased stability in early run Chinook size composition.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Anglers that previously harvested slot limit excluded fish in the middle river.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-333)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory
Committee AC3
Anchorage AC9
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 264 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Extend early-run king salmon slot limit below the Soldotna Bridge through July 14 as follows:

Chinook salmon measuring 44 inches or greater and less than 55 inches in length may not be retained in the Kenai River in all areas open to chinook salmon fishing downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake through July 14. Chinook salmon within this non-retention slot may not be removed from the water and must be released unharmed.

ISSUE: Inadequate protection of the depleted five-ocean class and the mainstem spawning substock of early run Chinook salmon returning to the Kenai River, particularly in the reach below Soldotna Bridge.

The current 44-55” non-retention slot was enacted to help protect declining numbers of large 5-ocean kings in the early run. It was an important step in the right direction, however, many of the “slot” kings saved in May-June suddenly become fair game for harvest in July. These large fish are believed to be the backbone of the mainstem-spawning component of the early run. A major reason for the decline in large early run kings is that these fish are being harvested off their spawning redds through all of July. Because the earliest arriving mainstem spawners have the longest window of vulnerability to the sport fleet, they have become the most heavily exploited component of the mainstem spawning population. A mainstem spawner entering the river in June will effectively spend its entire stream life in the open fishing zone where it can be harvested. Fish entering in July are less vulnerable, while fish returning in August are virtually unexploited. For over three decades, we have been cropping the front end of the mainstem return genetically cleansing the river of the earliest arriving fish with no real appreciation of the genetic consequences for the population as a whole.

The legal retention of early run “slot” kings in July is obviously counter-productive to the restoration of the five-ocean class and the mainstem-spawning component of the early run.

The Board of Fisheries partially addressed this issue by extending the slot limit out to mid-July above Soldotna Bridge. Yes, another step in the right direction, but still inadequate to protect large mainstem spawners. Here’s why.

ADFG’s transmitter data from the Bendock study showed that about one in five early run kings are mainstem spawners and that median spawning activity took place July 19. A slot regulation through July 14 does not even begin to protect these fish through their peak spawning activity.

The study also showed that 27% of mainstem spawners use the lower river (RM 12-21, below the Soldotna Bridge) while 45% used the middle reach (RM 21-39, bridge to Naptowne Rapids). If one compares the actual amount of habitat available for spawning, there are 9 miles in the lower reach and 18 miles in the middle reach. From the standpoint

of spawners per mile, the data suggest there is actually a greater density of lower river spawners than middle river spawners. Clearly, early run mainstem spawners in the lower river require just as much protection as those in the middle river.

Bendock's work revealed even more alarming observations about the fate of early run kings during July.

1) Nearly 90% of radio-tagged early run fish that would eventually be harvested in the sport fishery were taken in July. Significant numbers of early run kings continue to be mistakenly harvested as "late run" fish in July without any accounting in the early run escapement.

2) Two out of every three documented mainstem spawning sites are located in areas open to fishing. This is really no surprise since spawning takes place from RM 12 on up...right in the heart of the supra-tidal fishery in July. Moreover, 75% of radio-tagged lower river ER spawners were clustered between RM12 and RM 16. Translation: Pillars up to Big Eddy State Park (about a mile and a half above Big Eddy itself). Significant numbers of early run mainstem spawners are susceptible to harvest in some of the most heavily pressured fishing holes on the river...Pillars, Honeymoon, Falling In, Stewarts, Big Eddy, Airplane, Porters, Slide Hole, etc.

3) Median spawning date for radio-tagged river spawners was July 12. all but one of these fish spawned in July. The current slot regulations offer virtually zero protection for large early run spawners in the lower mainstem during July.

Conclusion; The available evidence strongly suggest that the manner in which the Kenai River slot limit is currently being applied significantly undermines its intended objective.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Further depletion of this already depressed sub-stock with unknown negative consequences to the long-term productivity of the entire stock as a whole.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? By reducing exploitation on this substock, the historic age-class composition of the entire stock can be restored, and over-exploited mainstem spawners in the early run can be better conserved. This measure will help to preserve the full spectrum of the early run stock's genetic diversity (run-timing, age at return, and preferred spawning habitat) to help ensure its natural long-term productivity for generations to come.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? 1) The fish, particularly the depressed five-ocean class and the over-exploited mainstem spawners in the early run. 2) The recreational fishing community at large would benefit from a revitalized early run replete with the older, larger fish that were historically present in the early days of the fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those recreational fishermen who wish to continue

harvesting the large 44" to 55" salmon which make up the vast majority of the depressed five-ocean age class as well as most of the mainstem-spawning population in the early run.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

1) Keep the current non-retention slot rules as is, i.e. through June 30 below Soldotna Bridge and through July 14 above Soldotna Bridge. This option fails to offer any protection to large early run mainstem spawners during their peak lower river spawning activity in July. Significant numbers of early run "slot" fish are harvested throughout July in all areas open to the retention of large king salmon without any accounting in the early run escapement. The early escapement is NOT adjusted to reflect early-timed fish harvested after June 30! Far too many of these fish are being indiscriminately harvested as so-called "late run" fish in July. The valuable early run conservation efforts of May-June should not be recklessly squandered when these very same "slot" fish become harvestable in July.

2) Extension of the current non-retention slot above Soldotna Bridge thru July 31. Studies suggest this option still leaves 27% of large early run mainstem spawners vulnerable to harvest below Soldotna Bridge. This reach supports the greatest density of mainstem spawning activity, and simultaneously the greatest density of angling activity on the entire river. This option unfairly requires upriver users to shoulder 100% of the conservative burden for protecting early run mainstem spawners in July while their downriver counterparts can continue to harvest these "protected" fish below Soldotna Bridge.

3) Extension of the current non-retention slot rules through July 31 in all areas open to king salmon fishing. This was proposed at the 2005 Board of Fisheries cycle for Cook Inlet and soundly rejected due to excessive forgone harvest opportunity on a healthy late run stock. ADFG has no conservation concerns for late run kings. Because 45% of late run kings fall within the non-retention slot, there were concerns about excessive handling when nearly half the fish must be released. Moreover, a season-long slot limit would undesirably skew the total harvest toward smaller, younger late run fish with unknown long term consequences.

Thus 2008 proposal spells out the rationale for a *compromise slot plan* that applies through July 14 in all areas open to king salmon fishing from the river mouth upstream to the outlet of Skilak Lake. Several key features of said plan will effectively address ADFG's cited concerns back in 2005.

A) Historically only 30% of the late run enters the river by July 14. This plan would not affect the remaining 70% of the return from July 15 forward.

B) Of the affected portion, only 45% would fall within the 44-55" size range. That means unharvestable "slot" kings would comprise less than 14% of the late run ($0.3 \times 0.45 = 0.135$)

C) All of these late run "slot" kings become available for harvest once again on July 15. That means the sport fleet has an additional 17 days to harvest them. Basically, these kings are only unavailable for harvest 14/31-ths of the month.

Effectively, a mere 6% (0.45 times 14 times 14 divided by 31 = 0.06) of the late run is excluded from harvest under this proposal. It would still enable the fishery to liberally exploit the remaining 94% of this healthy stock. Because nearly the entire late run remains in the harvestable pool of kings, concerns about harvesting equally across all age classes become irrelevant. In essence, all of staff's objections to the original 2005 proposal become non-issues.

Futhermore, recent entry-pattern trends in the late run make it even less likely that large late run fish would be affected by this compromise slot plan. In the past 5-6 years, the age-sex composition of the late run fish entering the river in the first two weeks of July has been predominated by small 1- and 2- ocean males. Very few large fish actually enter the river during this time period. Most of the large fish that are present in the lower river fishing zone during this time are actually mainstem spawners lingering from the early run. Since the bulk of large late run fish do not enter the river until well into the third week of July, a slot limit in the lower river during the first two weeks of July actually impacts exceedingly few of them. However, it would prevent significant numbers of ripening large early run kings in the lower river (virtually all of which were fully protected just days earlier in June) from being irresponsibly harvested as "late run" fish.

PROPOSED BY: Francis V. Estalilla, M.D.

(HQ-07F-359)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Charles Pickney PC16
Keith Holtan PC 18
George Krumm PC25

Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30
Francis Estalilla PC36
francis Estalilla PC37

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 265 - 5 AAC 57.120(2)(A). General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Amend this regulation to add the following:

5 AAC 57.120

(2)(A)(iv) from January 1 – July 14, a person may not possess a king salmon that has been filleted, headed, mutilated, or otherwise disfigured in a manner that prevents determination of the length of fish taken until the fish is permanently offloaded from a vessel if the fish was taken from a vessel or permanently transported away from the fishing site if the fish was taken from the riverbank; for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, “fishing site” means the riverbank where the fish was hooked and removed from the water becoming part of the angler’s bag limit;

ISSUE: In order for the Department of Fish and Game to evaluate the implementation of the slot-limit harvest strategy for king salmon in the sport fishery, as well as to enforce bag and size limits, it is imperative that Department of Public Safety representatives be able to determine the length of harvested king salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? ADFG will continue to issue an emergency order annually to prohibit anglers from filleting a harvested king salmon prior to the point at which either ADFG can collect biological information or enforcement officers have had the chance to inspect the harvest to ensure the fish meets the slot limit length requirements. This proposal is house keeping in nature.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The public, ADF&G, and ABWE.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-284)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Alaska Outdoor Council PC28

KRSA PC27

UCIDA PC30
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 266 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict use of bait for early-run kings on portion of Kenai River as follows:

Only unbaited, artificial lures allowed from Jan. 1 - June 30 from the confluence of the Moose River to the outlet of Skilak Lake on the mainstream of the Kenai River.

ISSUE: Allowing bait in the Kenai River above confluence of the Moose River prior to July 1.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lowered escapement goals on first run Kenai River kings has resulted in bait being allowed when goal is expected to be reached. Kenai kings that entered the Kenai under strict gear and harvest restrictions are staging in this area of the Kenai waiting to move (most) into the tributaries to spawn. Also, rainbow trout in this section are just coming off a spawning closure which makes them vulnerable to aggressively taking bait.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, it helps protect staging first run Kenai River king salmon. Also, protects post spawn rainbow trout that are vulnerable at this stage.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All future Kenai River first run anglers and all that enjoy the healthy rainbow trout population that the Kenai River now has.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those wishing to use bait to harvest Kenai River kings in this area during this timeframe.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Closing entire area above the Moose River and downstream of Skilak Lake from April 15 to June 30. Rejected as we felt this was too restrictive and would deny opportunity.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Professional Guide Association (HQ-07F-410)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 267 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow use of bait in the early run Kenai River king salmon fishery, starting May 1 or June 1 as follows:

Allow use of bait in the early run Kenai River king salmon fishery, starting May 1 or June 1.

ISSUE: Inability to keep the early king run within the escapement goals. Harvesting a larger percentage of the run from the tail end instead of equally thru the run. Loss of opportunity of additional harvest for all anglers. No conservation concern exists today that warrants the continued restriction on use of bait.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continue harvest of majority of fish from the latter part of the run. Lost opportunity of harvest of surplus fish. Years ago the fishery opened with bait, because of poor returns in early 1990's the BOF restricted the use of bait until escapement goal met.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All anglers increased opportunity. ADF&G will have easier time to keep run within the escapement goals.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Mel Erickson

(HQ-07F-378)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30

U.S. F&W Service PC31

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 268 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Extend Funny River, Slikok Creek, and Lower Killey River sanctuary closures through July 31 as follows:

Keep the Funny River, Slikok Creek, and Lower Killey River described areas closed to all fishing from a boat until the end of the king salmon season or July 31, whichever is later.

ISSUE: Current regulations allow designated sanctuary areas to open at the mouths of spawning tributaries to king salmon fishing July 15. When this occurs the majority of fish taken are spawning phase fish. We would like to see these areas kept closed throughout the entire king season to allow main-stem and tributary spawners more protected holding areas. The size integrity of Kenai kings has suffered because of selective harvest on larger fish, mainly produced in the main-stem, and it's time we start thinking of ways to conserve these stocks. First run spawning occurs between July 19-22 and as late as July 29.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Most tributary fish will hold for a while before going upstream to spawn and many main-stem fish will spawn near the outlet of major tributaries. By continuing harvest in these critical areas we reduce important spawning opportunity.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? The quality of most of the fish harvested in these area is poor, because they are in the spawning phase, and fishing pressure or retention should not be desirable. This would enhance the spawning opportunity for fish in these critical areas.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The resource itself. This would greatly reduce harvest mortality on these spawning phase kings.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Anglers who don't care about the quality of the fish only the opportunity to harvest.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-335)

FAVOR **OPPOSE**

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9 Kenai/Soldotna AC7 Anchorage AC9
Central Peninsula AC8 Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
UCIDA PC30
KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 269 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Extend Funny River, Slikok Creek, and Lower Killey River sanctuary closures through July 31 and expand Killey area as follows:

Extend seasonal closures to king salmon fishing on the lower Kenai mainstem January 1 through July 31 (Slikok, Funny and Lower Killey areas). Extend the Killey sanctuary to upstream areas adjacent to all three Killy river mouths.

ISSUE: Current seasonal closures to King salmon fishing in the lower Kenai River at the mouths of Slikok Creek, Funny River, and lower Killey River are not adequate to protect early run spawners staging at the mouths of these creeks. King telemetry data indicates that significant numbers of early run fish are staging near tributary mouths outside current seasonal closure areas and closure periods. Some anglers are concentrating on staging ripe and spawning fish in these areas, catching and releasing significant numbers, and sorting for large fish. Areas of particular concern include the upper Killey River mouth where dynamic channel changes have altered fish entry patterns and the College Hole downstream from Slikok Creek. Benefits of slot limits for protection of the large early run fish and sanctuary closures prior to July 14 are eroded by harvest of fish in staging areas outside of existing sanctuaries and in tributary mouth areas after they open in July.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Full benefits of slot limits and existing sanctuaries will not be realized and disruptive emergency fishery closures may be required in low run years.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? na

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The early run king sport fishery will benefit from protection of spawning escapement and large kings. Effective sanctuaries will provide added flexibility for fishery management at moderate to large run sizes.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. Ample opportunity for King soprt fisheries exists in other areas of the river.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Andy Szczesny

(HQ-07F-216)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Anchorage AC9

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 270 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Extend Kenai River king salmon season through August 7 as follows:

The Kenai River king salmon season will open January 1 and close on August 7 each year.

ISSUE: The lack of opportunity for anglers to harvest all segments of the Kenai late-run of king salmon.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We will continue to limit angler access to harvestable portions of the Kenai late-run king salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Coho salmon runs in August have “crashed” upon the Kenai River due to excessive gill net harvesting, and the above proposal would give anglers an alternative fishery during the first week in August.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen and tourism.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those who want to keep traditions.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Ruth Marie Johnson

(HQ-07F-079)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 271 - 5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan. Extend late-run king salmon sport fishing season through August 10 as follows:

Sport fishing for kings in the Kenai River will close at the same time as commercial fishing closes - not July 31.

ISSUE: Early closure of king salmon season in the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The status quo shall remain.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sports fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Commercial fishermen are harvesting kings until their closure. Sportsmen should have the same option. All kings will be spawned if not harvested, including the kings harvested by commercial fishermen in August.

PROPOSED BY: Melvin Forsyth Jr. (HQ-07F-303)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14
Anchorage AC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 272 - 5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan. Increase escapement goal for Kenai River late-run king salmon as follows:

Cook Inlet (Kenai River) fisheries shall be managed for a minimum escapement (in July) of 35,000 chinook salmon into the Kenai River.

ISSUE: Cook Inlet escapement of Chinook salmon into the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Sports fishermen and women will lack kings in the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sports fishermen and women.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial fishermen.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Sports fishermen have tried unsuccessfully, many times, to limit the commercial catch of the July Kenai River kings.

PROPOSED BY: Melvin Forsyth Jr. (HQ-07F-307)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 273 - 5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan. Delete portions of Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon plan as follows:

5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.

(a) The purpose of this management plan are to ensure an adequate escapement of late-run king salmon into the Kenai River system and to provide management guidelines to the department. [THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE THE LATE-RUN KENAI RIVER KING SALMON STOCKS PRIMARILY FOR SPORT AND GUIDED SPORT USES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE SPORT AND GUIDED SPORT FISHERMEN WITH A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO HARVEST THESE SALMON RESOURCES OVER THE ENTIRE RUN, AS MEASURED BY THE FREQUENCY OF INRIVER RESTRICTIONS.]

(b) The department shall manage the late run of Kenai River king salmon to achieve a biological escapement goal of 17,800 - 35,700 king salmon, as follows:

(1) in the sport fishery,

(A) if the biological escapement goal is projected to be exceeded, the commissioner may, by emergency order, extend the sport fishing season up to seven days during the first week of August.

(B) from July 1 through July 31, a person may not use more than on single hook in the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake;

(2) in the sport fishery, that portion of the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake is open to unguided sport fishing from a non-motorized vessel on Mondays in July; for purposes of this section a non-motorized vessel is one that does not have a motor on board;

(3) if the projected **escapement** [IN-RIVER RETURN] is less than 17,800 king salmon, the department shall

(A) close the sport fisheries in the Kenai River and in the salt waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point to the taking of king salmon;

(B) close the commercial drift gillnet fishery in the Central District within one mile of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline north of the Kenai River and within one and one-half miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline south of the Kenai River, **except within the Kasilof Special Harvest Area as provided in 5 AAC 21.365;**

(C) close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict of the Central District, **except within the Kasilof Special Harvest Area as provided in 5 AC 21.365.**

[(c) FROM JULY 20 THROUGH JULY 31;

(1) REPEALED;

(2) IF THE PROJECTED INRIVER RETURN OF LATE-RUN KING SALMON IS LESS THAN 40,000 FISH AND THE INRIVER SPORT FISHERY HARVEST IS PROJECTED TO RESULT IN AN ESCAPEMENT BELOW 17,800 KING SALMON, THE DEPARTMENT MAY RESTRICT THE INRIVER SPORT FISHERY;

- (3) REPEALED;
- (4) IF THE INRIVER SPORT FISHERY IS CLOSED UNDER (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COMMERCIAL SET GILLNET FISHERY IN THE
- (5) REPEALED

(d) REPEALED.

(e) CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND 5 AAC 21.360 IF THE PROJECTED INRIVER RETURN OF KING SALMON IS LESS THAN 40,000 FISH, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REDUCE THE CLOSED WATERS AT THE MOUTH OPF THE KENAI RIVER DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 21.350(B).

(f) THE PROVISIONS OF THE KASILOF RIVER SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN (5 AAC 21.365) ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

(g) THE DEPARTMENT WILL TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, CONDUCT HABITAT ASSESSMENTS ON A SCHEDULE THAT CONFORMS TO THE BOARD OF FISHERIES (BOARD) TRIENNIAL MEETING CYCLE. IF THE ASSESSMENTS DEMONSTRATE A NET LOSS OF RIPARIAN HABITAT CAUSED BY NON COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN, THE DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO REPORT THOSE FINDINGS TO THE BOARD AND SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE BOARD FOR APPROPRIATE MODIFICATION OF THIS PLAN.]

ISSUE: Delete meaningless and confusing language from the plans and clarify the management for the escapement goal.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The department and the BOF will continue to waste about 1/3 of the fish available for harvest in UCI with no benefit to any users in the long term.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, makes the plan clear and concise and manages to ensure that the minimum escapement goal is achieved.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone who fishes for salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, this system worked for 50 years with great success.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Higgins

(HQ-07F-226)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 274 - 5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan. Delete section (e) of the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan as follows:

Delete 5 AAC 21.359(e). [CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND 5 AAC 21.360 IF THE PROJECTED INRIVER RETURN OF KING SALMON IS LESS THAN 40,000 FISH, THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REDUCE THE CLOSED WATERS AT THE MOUTH OF THE KENAI RIVER DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 21.350(B)]

ISSUE: Delete this section because it prohibits the managers from using a valuable tool, of time and area, to manage for the sockeye spawning escapement goal. They are prohibited from using this tool until the upper end of the king escapement is projected to inter the river. The result has been continual gross sockeye over escapement and loss of valuable salmon surpluses. The Kenai kings are healthy and provide reasonable opportunity to harvest. The managers manage for the Chinook spawning escapement goal.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued over escapement, economic harm, and waste of the harvestable surplus and reduced future salmon returns.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users, the resource, the managers, the local economies by harvesting the surplus, preventing gross over escapements and maintaining future high returns from managing biologically for maximum sustained yields.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one. The Kenai kings are abundant. Some users will want to continue this allocation at the expense of grossly exceeding the sockeye spawning goal.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. This is a tool the managers must have to use when needed to prevent gross over escapement, waste of the surplus and smaller future sockeye returns.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-438)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Jim Johnson PC14
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9

Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 275 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Limit non-resident permits for king salmon on Kenai River as follows:

The Board of Fish should restrict the number of non-resident permits for king salmon to no more than one-half of the projected allowable harvest. Non-resident demand has grown exponentially while residents use has stayed the same or declined. The current practice of selling unlimited numbers of non-resident harvest tags for king salmon is the major reason for the large boats and crowding that is adversely affecting the habitat through erosion. In addition, the large number of boats is contributing to hydrocarbon contamination through fishing methods that require idling of motors.

ISSUE: Overuse of the Kenai River during July leads to habitat destruction through boat caused erosion, hydrocarbon contamination, safety concerns, and displacement of resident anglers due to overcrowding.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Habitat damage will continue and accelerate; hydrocarbon problems will continue to adversely affect fish and habitat for juvenile fish; and resident fishers will continue to abandon the fishery due to overcrowding and undesirable fishing conditions.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? By restricting the number of harvest tags available, crowding, boat-caused erosion, and hydrocarbon contamination would be reduced leading to an improved fishing environment and better quality and greater numbers of fish.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All anglers would benefit from improved quality of the fishery and the habitat and sustainable fishery would be improved.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Non-resident anglers and commercial operators would have to plan better and move fishing effort to earlier in the season in order to take advantage of fewer permits in July.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Ted Wellman

(HQ-07F-054)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 276 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Establish annual limits for salmon fishing by non-resident anglers as follows:

Set a season bag limit for non-resident anglers of 1 king salmon, 12 sockeye salmon, 4 silver salmon and unlimited numbers of pink salmon.

ISSUE: Failure to have a season bag limit for non-resident anglers has resulted in some non-resident anglers spending the entire summer on the Kenai River and catching excessive numbers of fish which are then sold for profit outside Alaska. This results in habitat degradation, overcrowding, displacement of resident use, illegal sale of sport caught fish and boat-caused erosion, and hydrocarbon pollution. The use diminishing the value of the resource and denies access to Alaska residents and other non-resident users.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The quality of the fishery will deteriorate and get even more crowded, additional bank degradation will occur and illegal sale of sport caught fish will continue to the detriment of all users.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? By setting a season bag limit, you would prevent illegal harvest, decrease crowding and allow more people to enjoy the resource.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All anglers will benefit from setting reasonable limits.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Only those who abuse the resource by taking more fish than they need for illegal sale.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered limiting the number of fishing days for non-resident anglers and considered extending the season bag limit to all anglers, both resident and non-resident. I rejected the ideas as too difficult to enforce and unnecessary for resident anglers.

PROPOSED BY: Ted Wellman

(HQ-07F-055)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9

Mat-Valley AC10

KRSA PC27

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 277 - 5 AAC 57.124. Harvest record required; annual limits for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit non-residents from exporting more than 125 pounds of fish as follows:

Export limit of 125 lbs.

ISSUE: Expanding fisheries in a limited fully allocated fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued allocation battles.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? That depends.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Resident sport fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Non-residents or not.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs

(HQ-07F-038)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Homer AC4
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 278 - 5 AAC 75.022. Statewide Provisions. Allow retention of sockeye salmon unintentionally hooked in the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers as follows:

Change the last sentence of methods and means under “freshwater sport fishing” to read, [Except for Sockeye salmon in the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers], a fish unintentionally hooked elsewhere than its mouth must be released immediately.

ISSUE: Allow sockeye salmon unintentionally hooked other than in the mouth to be retained in the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers, where chronic over-escapement and crowding are a problem. Sockeye salmon do not feed when they enter fresh water streams, therefore, virtually all are snagged, either by drawing the line through their mouth or elsewhere on their body. By changing this regulation we would reduce injury and damage to the fish themselves, relieve crowding, and reduce injuries to fishermen.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Fishermen will be forced to continue the practice of sorting through and releasing many foul hooked fish in an attempt to harvest their limit. This is not good for the resource (fish), fishery (crowding) nor the fishermen (lengthened exposure to potential injury). Over-escapement issues on the spawning and rearing grounds will continue to jeopardize future run strength stability.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, damage to the flesh of these fish (tearing and scaring) would be greatly reduced. In the current fishery many fish are hooked and released numerous times causing flesh damage and increasing mortality losses.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone. This would help reduce crowding because people would retain their limit faster and their exposure to injury, from flying hooks or leads, would also be greatly reduced. Most of the emergency room patients seen at the Central Peninsula hospital in Soldotna for fishing related injuries are derived from the Sockeye fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody. I realize this is a departure from pure fishing etiquette, however, these fish are mainly prized for their flavor as illustrated by the popularity of the personal use fisheries for this same species, which allows great numbers to be harvested in a single outing. What is the difference when we are considering a species that is neither feeding or striking?

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? In the event this proposal is not adopted, I would request that it be considered as an additional measure the commissioner could utilize to increase harvest when fisheries demand liberalization resulting from large run strengths.

PROPOSED BY: Dwight Kramer

(HQ-07F-327)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 279 - 5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Increase bag limit for coho salmon in Kenai Peninsula freshwater streams as follows:

General season and limits: Kenai Peninsula freshwater other salmon 16” and longer: 3 per day and in possession all three may be coho salmon.

ISSUE: Coho salmon have a sportfish priority. Coho salmon were listed as a stock of concern in 2001 and the bag and possession limit was reduced from 3 to 2 in all Kenai Peninsula freshwater road accessible systems. The stock of concern status on coho was removed at BOF Cook Inlet meeting in 2005 yet bag limits/possession limits remained the same. Need to determine which Kenai Peninsula streams can safely revert to 3 per day.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Limits for coho would remain at 2 which would be a loss of opportunity for sport fishing folks.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, provides more opportunity for these sport fish priority coho salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kenai Peninsula/Lower Cook Inlet sportfish anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those wanting a longer limit hoping that it will reduce effort by other anglers.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo - rejected because of loss of opportunity.

Kenai River limit raised only - rejected because we felt like ADF&G should evaluate coho stocks and thus determine which systems were able to support a 3 fish coho salmon per day fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Professional Guide Association (HQ-07F-409)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC 27

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC 30
Anchorage AC9

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 280 - 5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area; 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 59.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area; and 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Increase coho bag limit in Cook Inlet Area rivers as follows:

Coho 16-inch or longer, limit is 3 fish.

ISSUE: Change coho limit from 2 to 3.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Two fish limit is too low, silver runs are healthy again and guides can't fish while guiding.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who fish for silvers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo.

PROPOSED BY: David Richards

(HQ-07F-465)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14
Central Peninsula AC8

KRSA PC27
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 281 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Increase bag limit for coho salmon in the Kenai River as follows:

Raise the per day catch of coho salmon in the Kenai River to 3 fish per day.

ISSUE: Catch number of coho salmon in the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Undue limit of cohos for sports fishermen.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sports fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? This is just a return to past catch limits.

PROPOSED BY: Melvin Forsyth Jr. (HQ-07F-304)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Jim Johnson PC14 KRSA PC27	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41 Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52	Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Richard Hahn PC13 Anchorage AC9 UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 282 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Extend the coho salmon fishing season through November on Lower Kenai River and Skilak Lake as follows:

Coho Salmon 16” or longer open season July 1 - Nov. 30, Lower Kenai River mainstream and Skilak Lake.

ISSUE: Coho closure of October 31 for Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Lost opportunity for anglers wishing to pursue one of the last open water fisheries in South Central Alaska.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, provides opportunity to harvest late arriving Kenai River Coho salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All sport fishing anglers that want to extend there fishing season during a time of year that has limited opportunities available to them.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one that I could think of. Perhaps duck hunters or rainbow fisher folks that wanted this area to themselves.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo - rejected due to lack of reasonable opportunity.

Opening entire Kenai River mainstream to coho from July 1 - Nov. 30 but rejected due to concern of low water combined with road running most of the length of Upper Kenai River. Felt this would make the section from Kenai Lake down to Skilak Lake to problematic to open after Oct. 31.

PROPOSED BY: Steve McClure (HQ-07F-411)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Homer AC4
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory
Committee AC3
U.S. F&W Service PC31
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45

Richard Hahn PC13

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 283 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

Add one drift boat day possibly (Thursday) on the Kenai River for guided and non-guided anglers.

ISSUE: Kenai River hydrocarbons and bank erosion.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continual and increases in hydrocarbons and bank erosion on the Kenai River. There seems no limit to the increase in the number of guided and non-guided anglers every year. No agency seems willing or capable to make a decision that will insure the health of the Kenai River for future generations.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Less hydrocarbons and bank erosion in the Kenai River. With 10,000 gallons of gasoline going into the Kenai River annually something needs to be done now. A more enjoyable trip for both guided and non-guided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Guided and non-guided anglers. The Kenai River environment and ecosystems. I feel we have to act now to insure the health of the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A few anglers without drift boats.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Only drift boats on the Kenai River. Limited takeout points and anglers without drift boats.

PROPOSED BY: Warren Crawford

(HQ-07F-017)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Richard Hahn PC13
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 284 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

That another day be designated as a drift day and that the day would be Thursday.

ISSUE: That there be more fishing time on the Kenai River for non guided anglers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The fishery will become more lopsided with the majority of fish being caught by guided anglers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It makes it so unguided anglers can close the gap on percentage of catch by guided vs. non guided. The percentage is too uneven, with the majority going to guided.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All non guided anglers including resident sport anglers and the Kenai River because it would lower hydrocarbon emissions.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Todd Moore

(HQ-07F-063)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
UCIDA PC30	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Kenai/Soldotna AC7 Anchorage AC9	KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 285 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

Under the heading "guide boats" add: **In May, June and July fishing is allowed for 24 hours on Thursday drift days.**

Under "all boats" add **No one may fish from any motorized vessel on Mondays and Thursdays in May June and July (except Memorial Day).**

ISSUE: Motorized vessel use has increased dramatically and is responsible for excessive hydrocarbon concentration and increased erosion. There are also social issues associated with crowding that are compounded by motorizes vessels in the current configuration of the fishery Another drift day on the river, open to both guided and unguided anglers with no time restrictions, will help address hydrological issues and may promote more folks to invest in resource friendly drift boats. This would also allow more fish to move upriver and disperse to power-boat use during subsequent days. New boat use patterns indicate that most of the chinook fishing is now taking place in the lower 10 miles of the river.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The use of power-boats will continue to cause hydrological and social problems.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The resource and those who would like to see the river use slow down with more peaceful days on the water.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Power-boat users would lose a day on the water, however, this change may provide an opportunity for the guided public to enjoys a slower, quieter fishery.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? An alternative area of definition could be:
None

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-331)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Anchorage AC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52

Richard Hahn PC13
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 286 - 5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan. Add one additional non-guided drift only day on the Kenai River as follows:

The board will implement one additional non-guided drift only day (preferably Fridays during king salmon season), similar to the Monday regulations that currently exist as follows: 5 AAC 21.359(b)(2) in the sport fishery, that portion of the Kenai River downstream from Skilak Lake is open to unguided sport fishing from a non-motorized vessel on Mondays **and Fridays** In July; for purposes of this section a non-motorized vessel is one that does not have a motor on board;

ISSUE: The long-developing problem on the Kenai River is one of too much effort during peak periods, particularly during king salmon season. This proposal would reduce the impacts associated with the unrestricted growth of guide operators. Under current use patterns, there is such an imbalance in both harvest and use impacts and use impacts between the commercial recreation sector (guides) and public non-guided anglers that make it imperative to address this problem.

The symptoms of this problem are clear. General crowding, both in numbers and in effect on other users, continues to increase due to the unrestricted numbers of commercial guides operating on the Kenai. It is well known and documented that guide boats are typically larger and more heavily loaded than boats utilized by public non-guided anglers. Through research over the past several years, we have received confirmation of what most people expected: that boat wakes are predominantly a function of vessel weight, hull configuration and speed. The habitat along the critical shore areas of the Kenai are being damaged by user-induced boat wakes. To reduce these impacts we will need to reduce both the impact and incidence of wakes. The 50-hp regulation currently being considered by Alaska State Parks will do very little, if anything, to reduce wake-induced impacts if it is implemented. They hydrocarbon pollution is only one facet of this problem. Other aspects of this problem are:

- The number of Kenai guides has increased each year and is unrestricted.
- The number of non-resident anglers continues to increase year after year.
- The public non-guided angler share of the king salmon harvest is less than 50 percent and diminishing over time
- Public facilities, such as the Pillars boat launch, provide limited services to the public because they are heavily used for commercial operations by Kenai guides.

Guided use is not he only contributor to use impacts on the Kenai River. However, the solution proposed below would also provide relief from use impacts from non-guided public anglers as well.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Resident public (non-guided) anglers will continue to have a diminishing share of the Kenai River king fishery, and habitat damages to the river, that will be reduced of this proposal, would not occur.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS

PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, if you count increased quality of the angling day as a product. This proposal would increase the quality of the angling experience for all in-river users on the Kenai by reducing motorized user-related impacts for an additional day, to two days out of seven rather than the current on e day out of seven.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All in-river sport anglers on the Kenai would benefit from reduced habitat damage and water quality damage by taking motorized boats off the river for an additional day. Public non-guided anglers will have an opportunity to increase their proportional use of the king salmon harvest and fishing opportunity on the Kenai in a river-friendly manner.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial guide businesses would have one fewer days of operation per week on the Kenai River during July.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? This is a short and succinct change to Kenai sport management that would provide more opportunity for public non-guided king salmon anglers and also reduce wake-induced erosion and hydrocarbon emissions for an additional day per week during king salmon season. Another approach to addressing the user problems on the Kenai River would be a more comprehensive approach to:

- Limit Kenai guides
- Limit king salmon harvest by non-resident anglers, through limited numbers of king salmon stamp sales or other methods such as time/area closures
- Implement a number of measures to reduce wake-induced impacts through a) reduction in allowed weights of motorized boats on the Kenai River, b) encourage boat use for wake-minimizing hull configurations
- Establish use limits for all Kenai motorized boaters, based upon allowable impacts the habitat of the river.

In past years, the Board has been reluctant to embark on a comprehensive approach to dealing with the user-related problems on the Kenai River. The above proposal is a modest step in the right direction.

PROPOSED BY: Jim Richardson

(HQ-07F-252)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Kenai/Soldotna AC7	Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52 KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 287 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Add one drift boat only day on the Kenai River as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

Close the Kenai River to fishing from motor-powered boats downstream from the outlet of Skilak Lake to the Soldotna Bridge on Tuesdays.

ISSUE: The use of motor-powered boats is causing serious habit and water degradation along the Kenai River. These banks are critical for future salmon production. Over 1,000 boats a day can pass popular fishing areas (Dorara and Moore 1997).

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Motor boats will continue to cause hydrocarbon pollution and bank erosion thus depleting the bank habitat and eventually the salmon resource. Hydrocarbons will increase and possibly affect juvenile salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Salmon resource present and future and the people and industries that use and depend upon sustainable large returns.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those fishermen who want to use power boats on Mondays above the Soldotna Bridge.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Restrict more areas and more time to drift only. The public needs some time to adjust to drift only. By doing a little a time, people will see the results of less habitat degradation, healthier returns and much more enjoyable fishing experience.

PROPOSED BY: Roland Maw

(HQ-07F-397)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 288 - 5 AAC 57.121. **Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.** Make Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday drift-only days on Kenai River as follows:

Amend this regulation as follows:

Downstream of the outlet of Skilak Lake to the Soldotna Bridge on the Kenai River, the following regulation applied to guided fishing from all boats: **“No one may fish from any motorized vessel on Sunday and Wednesday and Fridays in May, June, and July except Memorial Day). For purpose of this regulation, a motorized boat is one with a motor onboard.”**

ISSUE: The Kenai River is experiencing environmental degradation from power boats. Recent data suggest that thousands of gallons of unburned gasoline are entering the river each fishing season. In addition, bank erosion rates continue to be very high due to boat wakes. These issues have been documented by scientific reports.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If the regulatory bodies do not act, the Kenai River system will continue to suffer degradation. As a past president of the American Fisheries Society testified in the 1980’s, “a river will bend and bend and bend and then break, when this happens, it is too late to recover.” This is the Kenai River. If small incremental steps toward change are not taken the actions needed when the system breaks will be dramatic and significant. This proposal starts that process of change. The Kenai River is now classified as “impaired” and has impaired water quality due to the levels of hydrocarbons present.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Removes hydrocarbons - gets rid of hydrocarbons from the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? In the long-term all users will benefit as the river’s long-term health is maintained. In the short-term those who are able to fish from a drift boat will benefit from reduced effort.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Residents and non resident boat owners who fish the Kenai will suffer some loss of opportunity in the short-term. As the fishery gains longevity, equipment will be replaced and opportunity will increase. The guided industry will have to adapt but this proposal does not prohibit guided anglers from fishing on these days.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? The most obvious solution is to go to a drift-only fishery every day. However, this would cause significant economic harm and would not allow for an orderly transition to a new type of fishery. An additional option would be to zone the river to drift and motorized boats. However, this would impact the residents along the river unfairly.

PROPOSED BY: John Sanderson

(HQ-07F-398)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 289 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Phase-in additional drift boats only days on Kenai River as follows:

In addition to banning all 2-stroke out board motors in July 2008, and July 2009, with a total ban in 2010, begin phasing in drift-boats-only over a six (6) year period, one day per week per year, starting in July, 2008, for fishing and recreation. In 2013, only drift boats would be allowed on the entire Kenai River during Julys, except for state agency powerboats and for river island residents for transportation only. There would be no other exceptions to this regulation. For example, power boat ferrying of sockeye anglers and/or dip netters up and down the river would not be allowed.

ISSUE: The possibility that just banning 2-stroke outboard motors from the Kenai River would not be sufficient to remove the river's "impaired status" listing by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and by the US Environmental Protection Agency, due to hydrocarbon (HC) pollution in Julys.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulation change is required to bring the Kenai River into compliance with water quality standards during the month of July. If banning two stroke outboard motored powerboats were not a sufficient hydrocarbon (HC) remediation step in July, 2008, then the Kenai River would remain on the section 303 (d) "impaired" water body list, as required by the US Clean Water Act. Continuing this impaired listing, due to HC pollution, could harm the River's fisheries and significantly impact DF&G annual revenues.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, being listed as an impaired water body under the US Clean Water Act is detrimental to the resource and the local economy. The Item 4 above described action would certainly result in removing the Kenai River from the 303 (d) impaired list for HC pollution into the foreseeable future, reduce river bank erosion and loss of habitat, essentially eliminate HC toxins from accumulating in river spawning beds and other sediments, improve habitat conditions for immature salmon and other aquatic life, essentially eliminate already intolerable powerboat crowding, and improve boating safety.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All aquatic life in the River, and all other wildlife which utilize the River and it's surrounding habitats. All community economic and recreation interests in the long term health and welfare of the River and sustainability of the River's fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Owners of 4-stroke outboard motor powered boats (like me), and those who are not fit enough to row a drift boat (like me), but only in Julys. However, allowing unlimited numbers of any kind of hydrocarbon-powered-and lubricated boats will continue to accumulate toxic HC pollutants in the river sediments, and in the Cook Inlet, which will eventually impact all the fisheries. Also, these power

boats will continue to cause river bank erosion, loss of already intolerable boat crowding, and diminish boating safety. The long term health and welfare of our River and our fisheries deserve better.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? An immediate change to drift-boat-only for fishing and recreation on the entire Kenai River for Julys, beginning 2008. This solution was rejected as being too abrupt to be implemented in an orderly manner.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Hahn

(HQ-07F-133)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 290 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit fishing from motorized watercraft in Kenai River. as follows:

A drift only river until pollution remits and wake study is complete - this is a park - 3 years.

ISSUE: Habitat - pollution and erosion.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? More degradation.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It protects the fish and the future of the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone in the long term.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Gas stations.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? It's time.

PROPOSED BY: John McCombs

(HQ-07F-029)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8	Kenai/Soldotna AC7 Anchorage AC9 UCIDA PC30	Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41 KRSA PC27
	Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 291 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Require 4-stroke or direct fuel injection motors on the Kenai River as follows:

On the Kenai River, during the months of July, 2008 and 2009, and annually beginning in 2010, gasoline powered, motorized boats may use only a 4-stroke or 2-stroke direct fuel injection (DFI) outboard motor.

ISSUE: During peak powerboat use on the Kenai River, coinciding with peak salmon returns (July), several hundred gallons of gasoline and other hydrocarbon pollution enter the River on a daily basis, except drift-boat-only Mondays. This quantity of hydrocarbons results in State Water Quality Standards 18 AAC 70 being exceeded for aquatic life. Biologist's models, existing data and river hydrocarbon pollution examples from other areas of the US suggest that traditional 2-stroke gasoline-fueled outboard motors pollute in a significantly disproportional amount compared to other available options (more than 15 to 1 compared to an equal 4-stroke).

This proposal requests a complete ban for the entire Kenai River watershed on 2-stroke outboard motors for July, 2008 and July, 2009, and a complete annual ban on all 2-stroke motors beginning May 2010. This proposal suggests such a ban may sufficiently improve water quality to bring the river back into compliance with state water quality regulations in 2008 or 2009, and may eliminate the Kenai River's "impaired status" listing by ADEC and USEPA as early as 2010. There is no empirical data for hydrocarbon pollution in the Kenai River caused by the aggregate of various regular and "detuned" 4-stroke outboard motors being used. A ban on 2-stroke motors in July, 2008, would allow badly needed pollution data from the aggregate of all 4-stroke motors to be obtained at the earliest possible date.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulation change is required to bring the Kenai River into compliance with water quality standards during the month of July. Two-stroke motored powerboats, used for ferrying sockeye anglers, king salmon sport fishing, and for the personal use fishery to the mouth of river must be banned for the desired result. If this does not occur, the Kenai River will remain on the section 303(d) "impaired" water body list, as required by the US Clean Water Act. Continuing this listing may also significantly impact DF&G annual revenues.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, being listed as an impaired water body under the US Clean Water Act is detrimental to the resource and the local economy. This action, taken as described, may result in removing the Kenai River from the 303 (d) "impaired" list.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All aquatic life in the river, and all other wildlife which utilize the River and it's surrounding habitats. All community economic and recreation interests in the use of the River and its fisheries.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Owners of powerboats who have motors that are not 4-stroke or 2-stroke direct fuel injection, as well as the river and its fisheries. However, continued unlimited use of all hydrocarbon-powered-and-lubricated boats will continue to accumulate toxic hydrocarbon pollutants in the River sediments and in the Cook Inlet, which will eventually impact all the fisheries too. Also, these power boats will continue to cause River bank erosion and loss of River habitat for immature salmon and other aquatic life, cause toxic water turbidity, increase already intolerable boat crowding, and diminish boating safety.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

Drift-boat-only for fishing or recreation on the entire Kenai River for July, beginning 2008; Rejected because the change would be too abrupt to be easily adopted.

Phase in a drift-boat-only fishery for Julys, one day per week per year beginning 2008, for 6 years. July would then be drift-boat-only in 2013. After 2013, drift-boat-only could be extended into June or August, as necessary, to reduce undue hydrocarbon pollution from 4-stroke motors. This solution, coupled with the absolute ban on 2-stroke outboard motors in 2010 would solve most of the River's problems in July, including most hydrocarbon pollution, power boat crowding, while reducing bank erosion and loss of River habitat, and improving boating safety. But it seems apparent that sustaining the long term health of the River and/or its fisheries are not the highest priorities of DF&G, BOF, DNR, DEC or many people in the communities whose livelihood it primarily sustains. This solution was not rejected but there does not appear to be the political will to implement it.

PROPOSED BY: Richard Hahn

(HQ-07F-132)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenia River Working Group
PC6

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 292 - 5 AAC 57.xxx. New section. Require 4-stroke or direct fuel injection motors on the Kenai River as follows:

Adopt requirement that all boats operated in personal use or sport fisheries on the lower Kenai River be operated with motors that are either **four-stroke or direct fuel injection, two stroke motors, or any future engines that meet EPA manufacturing standards for US sale, and that are built after adoption of this regulation.** Phase in the effective date or period in order to provide the opportunity for people with the older motors to schedule a replacement.

ISSUE: Elevated hydrocarbon levels have been measure in the lower Kenai River during several peak use days and hours in July. This finding led to a impaired water quality listing by the Department of Environmental Conservation under the federal Clean Water Act. Studies have determined that most of the hydrocarbon pollution is caused by older, inefficient two stroke boat motors and that use of the newer IPA-compliant motors will resolve the problem. Action to require use of the newer motors has been delayed by agency process and jurisdiction complications. For instance the Department of Natural Resources has authority to regulate boat motor use in the Kenai River Special Management Area but this area does not include lower river areas where the personal use fishery is concentrated. The cities of Kenai and Soldotna and the Borough can regulate use of their launch facilities. The Board of Fisheries has the authority to regulate fishing activities that impact on fish habitat.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Effective action to reduce hydrocarbon pollution will be delayed.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Not applicable.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The resource and all users will benefit from improved water quality.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Persons with old motors will incur the costs of a new motor in order to continue participation in the fishery.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? A variety of alternatives were considered but were rejected because they will significantly affect the problem. More drift-only days merely concentrate use and increase peak pollution levels on the remaining days. Additional guide restrictions provide no significant benefit since guides moors are almost universally the newer EPA-compliant type, the majority of the hydrocarbon inputs are from nonguided sport and personal use boats, and some of the highest water quality exceedances are seen on Sundays when guides do not operated. Time and area use limits merely move the problem around but do not solve it.

PROPOSED BY: Andy Szczensy

(HQ-07F-217)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai River Working Group
PC6

Richard Hahn PC13

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Alaska Outdoor Council PC28
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 293 - 5 AAC 57.xxx. New section. Require 4-stroke or direct fuel injection motors on the Kenai River as follows:

Allow fishing only from boats with 4-stroke or 2-stroke motors with direct fuel injection.

ISSUE: Hydrocarbons in the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Large amounts of unburned gas will continue to be discharged.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everybody.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Boat owners with old carbureted 2-stroke motors.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Mel Erickson

(HQ-07F-379)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenia River Working Group PC6 Richard Hahn PC13	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3 Anchorage AC9 Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9 Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
Kenai/Soldotna AC7 UCIDA PC30 Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41 KRSA PC27		

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 294 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Regulate motorized use for fishing on the Kenai River to reduce hydrocarbon pollution as follows:

We prefer a solution regulating motorized use for both the in-river Chinook sport fishery and the personal use fishery during the month of July in the Kenai River. As local governments we will work toward finding the best solution; however, for many of the potential options, it is not clear that local governments have jurisdiction to implement. We prefer solutions that substantially reduce hydrocarbons in manner that is fair. While a perfectly fair solution may be a challenge, we believe fair means reductions should come from all user groups in proportion to the amount of pollution each user contributes to the river.

Solutions may include but are not limited to:

1. Changes in means and methods that limits motorized run time.
2. Limit the total number of motorized boats operating at any one time on the river with a complete phase out of non-direct fuel injected (DFI) 2-strokes.
3. Increase use of electric motors or drift boats.

ISSUE: During peak powerboat use on the Kenai River, coinciding with peak salmon returns (July), several hundred gallons of gasoline enter the river on a daily basis. This quantity of fuel has resulted in State Water Quality standards 18 AAC 70 exceedences for aquatic life. This represents a clear conservation issue as water quality standards are designed to protect fish resources - this includes all fish resources of the Kenai River. Models, existing data and examples from other areas in the country suggest that traditionally carbureted 2-stroke motors pollute in a dramatically disproportional amount compared to several other available options (more than 10 to 1 compared to an equal 4-stroke).

A complete ban on 2-strokes would almost certainly eliminate this problem. This proposal seeks an option just short of a complete ban with the hope it would be sufficient to improve water quality, bringing the river back into compliance with state water quality regulations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulation change is required to bring the Kenai River into compliance with water quality standards during the month of July. The July concentration of hydrocarbons observed in the Kenai River have documented the potential for adverse affect on all fish species. The Kenai River will remain on the section 303 (d) “impaired” waterbody list as required by the Clean Water Act.

Area wide zoning to restrict certain inefficient motor types. Banning the launch of certain motor types from docks within City of Kenai limits. Rejected because potential for litigation with the State of Alaska challenging jurisdiction.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, being listed as an impaired water under the Clean Water Act is detrimental to the resource and the economy. This action taken as described will likely result in removing the Kenai River from the 303 (d) list.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All aquatic life in the river. All economic interests in the river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Owners of powerboats that have motors that are not 4-stroke or 2-stroke direct fuel injected.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Area wide zoning to restrict certain inefficient motor types. Banning the launch of certain motor types from docks within City of Kenai limits. Rejected because potential for litigation with the State of Alaska challenging jurisdiction.

PROPOSED BY: City of Kenai, Kenai Peninsula Borough, and City of Soldotna (HQ-07F-191)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai River Working Group
PC6
Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 295 - 5 AAC 21.xxx. New section. Reduce fishing hours or restrict motorized use to reduce hydrocarbon discharge into Kenai River as follows:

Do something to lower the gas discharge into the Kenai River.

1. less hours fishing for guides each day.
2. more drift days,
3. no fishing from a boat while the engine is running

ISSUE: Do something to address the “impaired river status” that faces us all and will become a huge problem in the very near future.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Feds and EPA will step in and do it for you.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Jeff Stephans

(HQ-07F-239)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenia River Working Group
PC6

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Anchorage AC9

Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30
KRSA PC27

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 296 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict outboard motors to 35 hp on the Kenai River as follows:

Keep maximum outboard use at 35 horsepower, reduce days on the river open to fishing guides, and replace motorized days with drift boat only days.

ISSUE: Reverse the decision of increasing allowable outboard motor size from 35-horse to 50-horse.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The increase in size will increase erosion along the banks, increase water turbidity, decrease catch rates, and increase interpersonal conflicts.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? By reducing larger motors, and thus reduce pollutants fouling the river, the quality of the resource, will and the experience, will improve for all user groups.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The river, the resource, the public in general.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Commercial guides.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Total ban of all commercial guide existing on the Kenai River would cause economic harm of untold consequences.

PROPOSED BY: Matthew Hall

(HQ-07F-315)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenia River Working Group PC6
Richard Hahn PC13
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 297 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit king salmon fishing from boats during a 48 hour period on lower Kenai River as follows:

Close the Kenai king fishery from a boat below the Soldotna bridge for a 48 hour window each week from 6:00 a.m. on Wednesdays to 6:00 a.m. on Fridays from June 25 to July 31. Everything else can stay in effect.

ISSUE: No Kenai kings get through the lower river fishery to the middle and upper river causing everyone to go down to the zoo to try to catch a fish. There needs to be a window to pass fish upriver to other users if there is going to be a meaningful opportunity to fish for kings above Soldotna.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The only fishery will be in the lower river. In the last 2 years the fishery is now moving further down the the he Warren Aymes Bridge and below.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: John Egan

(HQ-07F-233)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory
Committee AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 298 - 5 AAC 57.140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River drainage area. Prohibit non-residents from fishing from a vessel unless accompanied by a relative between 6pm and 6am on the Kenai River as follows:

(i) from June 1 through July 31, non-residents may not fish from a boat between the hours of 6 pm to 6 am, unless accompanied by a relative within the second degree of kindred who is a resident Alaskan and who possesses a valid Alaska resident fishing license.

ISSUE: Unregulated guiding activity.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued enforcement problems with unregistered guides on the Kenai River and poor public perception of legal guide businesses.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The resident, public angler as well as guides and legal guiding businesses.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Illegal guide operations and their clients.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Close the river to all non-resident fishing from 6 pm to 6 am. That would not be fair to resident anglers who might have visiting relatives that would like to fish during the evening hours.

PROPOSED BY: Rod and Randy Berg

(HQ-07F-253)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 299 - 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area. Open Kenai River below Soldotna Bridge to fishing from boats during king salmon season as follows:

All the Kenai River waters below the Soldotna Bridge shall be open to boat fishing for king salmon during the king salmon season.

ISSUE: Removal of prime king salmon fishing water, when there is a shortage of water available for boating anglers on the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We will continue to have more boat congestion upon the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Removal of boat congestion on the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Kenai River sportfishermen using boats.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A bank fishermen who does not wish to have a boat fishermen in his fishing area; fishermen need to learn the art of "sharing the river."

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Sharing the river.

PROPOSED BY: James Karl Johnson (HQ-07F-078)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 300 - 5 AAC 57.xxx. New regulation. Require course for powerboat operation on Kenai River as follows:

All powerboat operators upon the Kenai River must pass a Alaska powerboat operators course to legally operate a powerboat on the Kenai River.

ISSUE: Boating safety upon the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? We will continue to have safe, licensed, professional fishing guides operating powerboats upon the Kenai River, we will continue to have unsafe, unlicensed powerboat operators upon the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will increase boating safety upon the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The boating public.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Unsafe boaters.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Require all powerboat operators to pass a U.S. Coast Guard course in order to operate a boat on the Kenai River.

PROPOSED BY: James Karl Johnson

(HQ-07F-080)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 301 - 5 AAC 57.123. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict use of motorized vessel for fishing on the Upper Kenai River near Kenai Lake as follows:

No one may fish from a motorized vessel on the Upper Kenai River in Cooper Landing between the ADF&G marker 1/4 mile above the Sterling Highway Bridge and the ADF&G “drift only” marker just upstream of Princess Rapids. For purposes of this regulation a motorized vessel is any vessel with a motor on board.

ISSUE: There has been an increased use of motorized vessels for fishing the reach of the Upper Kenai River between the Sterling Highway bridge and the ADF&G “drift only” marker just upstream of Princess Rapids. These vessels cause unnecessary congestion by making several passes upriver by motor and also cause an increased amount of wake and stream bank erosion. This creates a dangerous situation since this area is a narrow reach of river and is also just downstream of the boat launching site, which causes a huge bottleneck for boaters who are simply trying to float downstream.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If this problem is not solved, the most immediate and dangerous outcome could be a potentially deadly boating accident in this area. Finally, the increased boat wakes will cause a long term effect of increased bank erosion, which poses a threat to both property owners and the stability of sections of the Sterling Highway.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This proposal would improve the angling experience for all anglers in the area by spreading the pressure on the resource out throughout the river system. It would also provide for a more tranquil, quiet, and enjoyable experience for all user groups of the Upper Kenai in that area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anyone looking to drift/fish this area without unnecessary congestions and a higher risk of boating accidents that comes along with such congestion in a very small/narrow reach of river benefit. Riverfront property owners in the area would also benefit from lessened boat wakes which cause increased stream bank erosion. The State of Alaska would benefit from lessened impact of stream bank erosion on the sections of the Sterling Highway that run adjacent to the river in this area.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Homeowners living on the Kenai River in Cooper Landing who use motors to access the river for fishing in this area would suffer if this solution is adopted.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? No other solutions have been considered.

PROPOSED BY: Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-429)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Central Peninsula AC8

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

Note the Board of Fisheries does not have authority to establish a limited entry program, but the following proposal was included because the board does have authority to implement other guide registration requirements.

PROPOSAL 302 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Institute a limited entry program for guides on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers as follows:

Institute a limited entry program for guides on the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers.

ISSUE: The Kenai River is overcrowded with commercial users who are crowding out non-guided use. The guide industry is suffering from this overcrowding and unfettered competition resulting in excessive boat traffic and consequent bank erosion and habitat damage.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The problem will continue and get worse. In 2006, guided numbers were at an all time high. The guide industry and the quality of the fishery will suffer by not placing a reasonable limit on the number of guides.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? This change will improve the quality of the fishery, decrease crowding, lessen boat caused bank erosion, decrease hydrocarbon problems and increase non-commercial use of the resource by residents.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All users would benefit from decreased crowding, lower erosion and lower hydrocarbons.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Some guides would eventually need to move elsewhere.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? This only works if the fewer numbers of king tags are sold to non-residents or displaced legal guides will be replaced with illegal guides.

PROPOSED BY: Ted Wellman

(HQ-07F-058)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Richard Hahn PC13
Kenai/Soldotna AC7	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	UCIDA PC30 KRSA PC27
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41	Anchorage AC9 Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 303 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6am - 6pm, to 7am - 7pm as follows:

Adopt new guided fishing hours – 7 AM to 7 PM for all guide services.

ISSUE: Conflict between guided and non-guided anglers by changing the guiding hours from 6 AM to 6 PM to the following 7 AM to 7 PM on the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? More conflict between guide services and non-guided anglers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It is possible that this proposal will spread out the hydrocarbons going into the Kenai River; possibly the spike in hydrocarbons will level out a bit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The non-guided anglers and just maybe the Kenai River.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? N/A.

PROPOSED BY: Warren Crawford

(HQ-07F-018)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 304 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6am - 6pm, to 7am - 7pm as follows:

Under the heading "guide boats" change: **In May, June and July fishing is allowed only from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** [6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.]

ISSUE: Guide number increases and associated activity has caused many private anglers to leave the fishery. Between 2005-2006 the number of power-boat guides increased by 66, resulting in a total of 369. This increased activity has had a negative affect on private angler participation because they are less tolerant of trying to fish in crowded conditions while guides must fish in whatever conditions exist in the fishery.

Data suggests that 10 years ago, on the average fishing day there were 50% guided and 50% unguided boats on the river. In 2006 the typical day consisted of 62% guided and 38% unguided boats. The decline in private angler participation has resulted in a decline in harvest, and guided anglers currently for 65-75% of the total.

Our proposal adjusts guide start and finish hours to provide private anglers a better opportunity to fish during the prime fishing hours. This change may also help bring balance to the King salmon harvest.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guide angler numbers may continue to grow and guided angler harvest will continue to dominate total harvest.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Unguided anglers because they will have more productive hours allotted to them. This proposal would also ease crowding at boat ramps.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guided anglers may lose one of the more productive hours of morning fishing.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-358)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 305 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify existing Kenai River guide hours from 6am - 6pm, to 8am - 8pm. as follows:

Kenai River guide hours should be set from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in June and July.

ISSUE: Kenai River guide hours - Guides hogging the good holes before 6:00 a.m.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guides will continue to impact resident anglers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It sure helps the resident anglers put quality king salmon in their freezers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Non-guided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guided anglers.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Thought about 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. but too liberal.

PROPOSED BY: L.R. Anderson

(HQ-07F-084)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Central Peninsula AC8

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 306 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit guide boats with clients in fishing holes 10 minutes prior to opening times as follows:

Guide services are not allowed on the Kenai River with clients in fishing holes at least ten minutes before opening times.

ISSUE: Fishing guides getting to the fishing holes before opening guided times and interfering with non-guided anglers. Fishing guides with paying clients should not be in fishing holes before opening guiding hours.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will be more conflict and hard feelings between guided and non-guided anglers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Non-guided anglers and clients of guide services who will not see conflict between user groups.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The guides that continually fill fishing holes before guided starting times.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Other solutions too costly or controversial.

PROPOSED BY: Warren Crawford (HQ-07F-019)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 307 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit guides with clients from being on the river prior to 1/2 hour before start time as follows:

Fishing guide services with clients on board are not allowed on the Kenai River until 1/2 hour before the start time for that day.

ISSUE: On the Kenai River guides are getting to the fishing areas up to 1 hour early and sitting in the prim fishing spots until the legal fishing time. The method of fishing is back bouncing and therefore a guide boat can prohibit a non-guided angler in his boat from entering the area by their physical presence. This is causing conflict with non-guided anglers who are to have guide free fishing until guide hours begin.

If this proposal is passed the limitation on hours will be on “fishing guide services” instead of fishing. Fishing guide services are defined in regulation as “to assist, for compensation or with the intent to receive compensation, a sport or personal use angler to take or to attempt to take fish by accompanying or personally directing the angler in sport or personal use fishing activities during any part of a guided fishing trip”... The intent of this proposal is not to allow the guide to accompany the fishermen until a set time by adding to the regulations a limitation hours available for fishing guide services.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The conflict between guides and non-guided anglers will increase.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Non-guided anglers who must be in competition with a guide vessels during a time when they are allocated guide free conflict.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Only those inconsiderate guides who are on the river up to one hour before legal fishing time to tie up prime fishing holes. This regulation allows 10 minutes before and after the legal fishing time for transport of personnel to the fishing area.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? There is one option to not allow a fishing guide to enter a fishing area until guide hours begin. These areas must be defined along the river which is costly to the State of Alaska and it is more difficult to enforce.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition (HQ-07F-337)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
UCIDA PC30

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 308 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 57.140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Separate the guided and unguided sport fishers in the lower Kenai river by day and time as follows:

During the month of July:

Mondays...Unguided anglers only, no power boats (Drift Day). 24 hrs.

Thursday...Guided anglers only, no power boats (Drift Day). 24 hrs.

All other days, for fishing from a boat;

On odd numbered days, guided anglers fish from 1:00 am - 11:00 am. Unguided anglers fish from 1:00pm - 11:00 pm.

On even numbered days, unguided anglers fish from 1:00 am - 11:00 am. Guide anglers fish from 1:00 pm - 11:00 pm.

Sport fishing guides, registered with ADF&G, may only fish or participate in fishing from a boat during guided angler hours. To participate in fishing means running the boat, baiting hooks, handling rods, netting fish, etc...

ISSUE: Crowding and guide dominance during the month of July has caused many private anglers to leave this fishery. This has caused a growing rift between these two user groups and we need solutions that offer equal fishing times and opportunity for both groups. This proposal accomplishes that goal and offers long term solutions to;

- 1) Crowding.
- 2) Guide limitations. None would be needed because they would only be competing against themselves for opportunity and harvest.
- 3) Hydrocarbon pollution - because only half the number of boats would be on the water at any given time. Large discharge spikes would be less noticeable.
- 4) Boat launch crowding.
- 5) Complaints that one user group has any advantage over the other would be unfounded.

Guide number increases and associated activity has caused many private anglers to leave the fishery. Between 2005 - 2006 the number of power-boat guides increased by 66, resulting in a total of 369. This increased activity has had a negative affect on private angler participation because they are less tolerant of trying to fish in crowded conditions while guides must fish in whatever conditions exist in the fishery

Data suggests that 10 years ago, on the average fishing day there were 50% guided and 50% unguided boats on the river. In 2006 the typical day consisted of 62% guided and 38% unguided boats. The decline in private angler participation has resulted in a decline in harvest, and guided anglers currently account for 65-75% of the total Chinook harvest.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? User conflicts will escalate as guide dominance continues to grow, and conversely the unguided angler participation and harvest percentages continue to decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone, because fishing times will be equal, less crowding, and user conflicts would be unfounded. Perhaps harmony between the user groups would be restored. Guides that wish to expand their business would benefit because there would be no necessity to limit guiding. The State could also benefit because more boat ramps may not be necessary.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides that currently run two-a-day trips may find this more difficult to accomplish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Reduce hours for guides.

PROPOSED BY: Dwight Kramer

(HQ-07F-328)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 309 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit Kenai River guiding on Thursdays in June and July as follows:

No Kenai River guides on Thursday in June and July.

ISSUE: No guided fishing on Kenai River in June or July on Thursday.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guides percentage of catch will continue to increase for king salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It will help resident anglers quality by increasing their production.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Non-guided angler.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guided angler.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Guides drift only on Kenai River on Thursday - too liberal.

PROPOSED BY: L.R. Anderson

(HQ-07F-065)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 310 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit guides from fishing on Kenai River on Sundays as follows:

In July, no Kenai River guide can be in a vessel that is drifting, moving, under power with fishing poles in the water.

ISSUE: Guides on Kenai River taking out clients - but not for money for trade or some other type of compensation on Sundays - abuse of the no-guide on Sunday regulation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guides will continue to abuse the current regulation by guiding on Sunday for compensation other than money.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It lets non-guided anglers have a better chance to catch a king without guides on Sunday.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All legal non-guided anglers who fish on Sunday.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides who fish on Sunday in July on the Kenai River.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None

PROPOSED BY: L.R. Anderson

(HQ-07F-096)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 311 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit guides from fishing on Kenai River on Sundays as follows:

If you are a licensed guide on the Kenai River, you are not allowed to fish on Sundays on the Kenai River under any circumstances.

ISSUE: The problem of guides fishing on the Kenai River on Sunday. A day that's supposed to be for non guided anglers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? It will be what its already become, another day for guides on the Kenai river.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, the board made this regulation to make the catch rate between guides and non-guided anglers more even, and provide a day on the water without guides.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The people that this regulation was supposed to help in the first place; non guided anglers and resident sport anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one, guides are not supposed to be on the river on Sundays.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Todd Moore (HQ-07F-062)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30	Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
	Kenai/Soldotna AC7	Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
	Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 312 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict licensed guides while fishing during non-guide hours on Kenai River as follows:

Put in place a restriction that states: **“Nobody registered with the State of Alaska as a Sport Fishing Guide may participate in fishing from a boat on the Kenai River downstream of Skilak Lake during June and July when non-guided hours are in effect except with relatives within the second degree of kindred. Participating in fishing would include the act of fishing, assisting in fishing, or operating a boat where fishermen are actively fishing. Second degree of kindred is defines as your father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, spouse, grandparent, grandchild, brother/sister-in-law, son/daughter-in-law, father/mother-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepsister, stepbrother, stepson or stepdaughter.”**

ISSUE: This proposal would address illegal guiding during non-guide hours and unlimited guide participation and illegal guide activities on Sundays. Public perception is that there are increasing numbers of guide operated boats on the river during non-guide hours. Some guides appear to be using this time frame to award extra fishing time to good clients or pay back people for trade of in-kind services, sponsorship, etc. Some of the perceived activity may also be illegal guiding by people from outside the area or State.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Unguided anglers will continue to lose opportunity.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? N/A

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Unguided fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Non second degree kindred folks will have fewer days to fish with registered guides. Guides can fish with quote “friends” during guide hours on days when the have cancellations, limit out early or only have one trip scheduled for that day.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai Area Fishermen's Coalition

(HQ-07F-336)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 313 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Limit guides on the Kenai River to only one client or group of clients per day during July as follows:

Under, Kenai River:

In the month of July, during any one day, a fishing guide may guide only that client or group of clients initially guided by the fishing guide that day; different or additional clients may not be guided.

ISSUE: Crowding and over all guide activity during the month of July has caused many private anglers to leave this fishery. The increased development of two-a-day trips has had a negative affect on crowding and environmental impacts on the river, such as increased hydrocarbon discharge and boat wake habitat destruction. Removing activity associated with two-a-day trips and changing out clients could remedy much of the problem. DNR data indicates that in 2003 27% of guides were doing two-a-day trips. That number increased to 47% in 2004 and 2006 information indicates that about 67% of the number of guide boats on the water in the morning were on the water in mid-afternoon.

Between 2005-2006 the number of power-boat guides increased by 66, resulting in a total of 369. This increased activity has had a negative affect on private anglers participation because they are less tolerant of trying to fish in crowded conditions. The decline in private angler participation has resulted in a decline in harvest, and guided anglers currently account for 65-75% of the total Chinook harvest.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? User conflicts will escalate as guide dominance continues to grow, and conversely the unguided angler participation and harvest percentages continue to decline. Hydrocarbon and habitat issues will remain problematic.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Private anglers who desire to fish in less crowding and boating activity. All fishermen would benefit from this type of environment and habitat friendly change.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides that currently run two-a-day trips.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Reduce hours for guides.

PROPOSED BY: Dwight Kramer

(HQ-07F-356)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA 27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 314 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Open Kenai River guiding to one trip per day as follows:

A Kenai River guide may only take one trip for hire per day - similar to the Kasilof River, in June and July.

ISSUE: Kenai River guides are continuing to take a higher percentage of king salmon harvest in June and July.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Non-guided harvest will continue to erode for king salmon on the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? It gives non-guided anglers a better chance to harvest king salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Non-guided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides who take multiple trips per day on the Kenai River.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: L.R. Anderson

(HQ-07F-094)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9	Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3	Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
UCIDA PC30	Kenai/Soldotna AC7	Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45	Anchorage AC9	KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 315 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict Kenai River and Kasilof River guides to one trip per day on either river as follows:

Guides may not run trips on both the Kenai and Kasilof rivers on the same calendar day, regardless of the fact if the clients are the same or not.

ISSUE: Overcrowding on the Kasilof River, predominantly during the latter part of May through the month of June.

Current regulations are unfair to those guides that only wish to guide on the Kasilof River as they are limited to taking one set of clients per day, while those Kenai-licensed guides may run a trip on both rivers daily.

The current statute that limits guides to one trip daily on the Kasilof during king season does not address this issue in Kasilof guided angler crowding and stock impacts. It only serves to increase the overall number of guides in the region, a point of concern for most user groups in the Cook Inlet region.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulations will likely continue to become more complex. Non-guided anglers may feel the impacts of needed regulatory changes to keep stocks in tact. Impacts upon stocks not having BEGs in place may suffer from over-exploitation as overall guided effort increases.

The quality of the sport fishery will continue to deteriorate for both guided and unguided anglers. This has negative impacts for both user groups and will create a negative long-term effect for Kasilof-based businesses and guides.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? If no action is taken, the quality of the experience for both guided and unguided sports anglers will continue to decrease. This proposal would keep angler effort more spread out across the Peninsula, especially during the early-run king salmon season.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This proposal will decrease overall guided angler effort on the Kasilof, thus there will be overall less impact on fish stocks. In addition, beneficiaries include: all non-guided anglers; guides that have in the past or in the future plan to only guide upon the Kasilof River; guided anglers wishing to experience the Kasilof River fisheries on any day of the week with a more manageable number of guided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The small number of guides that wish to operate on both watersheds on the same day will likely see some revenue loss.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Guides may not run trips on both the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers on the same calendar day, regardless of the fact if the clients are the

same or not.

Close the Kasilof River to all guided king fishing on Sunday (currently in place for July) and/or Monday to follow suit with current Kenai River regulations.

Reasons for rejection: a small number of guides operate strictly on the Kasilof River, they are already economically limited by the regulation that only allows one trip daily. There is little reason to deliver a second economic blow to these guides when they have already been limited due to the increase in cross-river traffic.

By not having Sunday and/or Monday as an option for guided anglers to fish for king salmon on the Kasilof, that would mean there would be zero options for guided anglers to river fish for king salmon on those days. This option will make scheduling though for many operations and will only serve to increase the traffic on other days of the week.

Guides registered with Alaska Department of Natural Resources as a "Kenai River Guide" may not guide on the Kasilof River on days that that any portion of the Kenai River is closed to angling from a guided vessel.

Reasons for rejection: A possible solution with more negative economic impact to Kenai River licensed guides. Will greatly help in alleviating the extreme crowds on Sundays and Mondays in king season and Mondays during silver season, but will not impact overall river traffic the remainder of the week.

When registering with Alaska Department of Fish and Game each year, guides must specify either Kenai or Kasilof as the river upon which they will guide during the months of May, June, July, and August. A registered guide may operate elsewhere within the state, but may only guide on one of these rivers during these months.

Reasons for rejection: Another possible, yet very restrictive measure. Will have the most economic impact on those guides that wish to guide on both rivers.

Cap guide numbers on the Kenai and/or Kasilof River drainages.

Reasons for rejection: Obviously, the most obvious way to get this situation under control. However, it is unlikely to be put into place at this time.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-052)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 316 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area; 5 AAC 60.140. Freshwater guiding requirements for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; 5 AAC 61.140. Freshwater guiding requirements for the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.140. Freshwater guiding requirements for the West Cook Inlet Area. Limit guides to only one client or group of clients per day for Upper Cook Inlet Rivers as follows:

During any one day, a fishing guide may guide only that client or group of clients initially guided by the fishing guide that day; different or additional clients may not be guided.

ISSUE: Crowding and over all guide activity has caused many private anglers to leave various fisheries in Upper Cook Inlet rivers. The increased development of two-a-day trips has had a negative affect on crowding and environmental impacts on the rivers, such as increased hydrocarbon discharge and boat wake habitat destruction. Removing activity associated with two-a-day trips and changing out clients could remedy much of the problem. This increased activity has had a negative affect on private resident angler participation because they are less tolerant of trying to fish in crowded conditions.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? User conflicts will escalate as guide dominance continues to grow, and conversely the unguided angler participation and harvest percentages continue to decline. Hydrocarbon and habitat issues will remain problematic.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Resident private anglers who desire to fish in less crowded conditions. All fishermen would benefit from this type of environment and habitat friendly change.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides that currently run two-a-day trips.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Reduce hours for guides.

PROPOSED BY: Dwight Kramer

(HQ-07F-355)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 317 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict guides from registering for both Kenai and Kasilof rivers as follows:

When registering with Alaska Department of Fish and Game each year, guides must specify either Kenai or Kasilof as the river upon which they will guide during the months of May, June, July. A registered guide may operate elsewhere within the state, but may only guide on one of these rivers during these months.

ISSUE: Overcrowding on the Kasilof River, predominantly during the latter part of May through the month of June. Most problematic days are Sundays and Mondays, and days that the river is open to wild king harvest during the early run.

The majority of river traffic is that of guided anglers and has increased substantially over the last 8 or 9 years.

In times of in-season conservation actions of the Kenai River (as has happened frequently over the last decade) or on days that the Kenai River is closed to guided salmon angling, a great number of guided anglers descend upon the Kasilof.

Placing a large number of guides that normally spread out over the entire length of the Kenai River in the much smaller Kasilof drainage creates an extremely crowded situation.

This increase makes management of the Kasilof salmon resources difficult for managers, especially during the first run of king salmon. First-run king salmon management has become very complex due to the increased pressure and both guided and unguided Kasilof anglers often face more restrictions when the Kenai regulations become more restrictive in-season and guided angling effort on the Kasilof takes an unforeseen steep rise. This negatively impacts both guided and unguided Kasilof River anglers as well as the local business that rely on steady and somewhat foreseeable regulations.

Little is known in regard to overall run sizes for second-run kings in the Kasilof, so it is difficult to estimate the impacts upon these stocks, but it is extremely important to keep a conservative sport fishing impact approach in place because of the lack of data.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulations will likely continue to become more complex. Non-guided anglers may feel the impacts of needed regulatory changes to keep stocks intact. Impacts upon stocks not having BEGs in place may suffer from over-exploitation as overall guided effort increases.

The quality of the sport fishery will continue to deteriorate for both guided and unguided anglers. This has negative impacts for both user groups and will create a negative long-term effect for Kasilof-based businesses and guides.

In years that the Kenai undergoes major in-season regulatory changes, impacts on Kasilof

stocks may leave escapements at less than optimum levels. This not only negatively impacts the stocks in that season, but also impacts the fishery long-term.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? If no action is taken, the quality of the experience for both guided and unguided sports anglers will continue to decrease. While on paper, it would seem that guided river traffic would decrease if no action is taken and the angling experience deteriorates to the point that anglers will not choose to participate; what occurs in real-world scenario is that operators simply drop prices to retain interest in the fishery, creating a scenario of the same impact and less economic return to the region.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This proposal will decrease overall guided angler effort on the Kasilof, thus there will be overall less impact on fish stocks. In addition, beneficiaries include: all non-guided anglers; guides that have in the past or in the future plan to only guide upon the Kasilof River; guided anglers wishing to experience the Kasilof River fisheries on any day of the week with a more manageable number of guided anglers.

Fisheries managers will have a better opportunity to measure and manage sport fishing impact, especially in those years with additional in-season restrictions on the Kenai that serve to shift guided angler traffic to the Kasilof.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides that normally operate on both watersheds will likely see some revenue loss.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Several other options would help alleviate the issue to a lesser degree and have also been proposed. This is perhaps the most radical of the currently available options to the BOF, but would likely have the most impact upon decreasing river traffic. Some of the other options are listed below and reasoning mentioned:

Close the Kasilof River to guided king salmon fishing on Sunday (currently in place in July) and / or Monday to follow suit with current Kenai River regulations. Reasons for rejection: a small number of guides operate strictly on the Kasilof River, they are already economically limited by the regulation that only allows one trip daily. There is little reason to deliver a second economic blow to these guides. Such a proposal would only allow guides that only operate on the Kasilof 5-6 trips weekly during king season while guides working both rivers as currently allowed could still run one or more trips daily on the Kenai and then run their allowed one guided trip daily on the Kasilof. While overall “Kasilof-only” guide numbers will probably increase some, there is no question that the overall guided angler traffic will decrease on the Kasilof River if guides must chose between one river or the other. This decrease should alleviate any need for “non-guided” days to make for a better experience for the non-guided angler. By not having Sunday and/or Monday as an option for guided anglers to fish for king salmon on the Kasilof, that would mean there would be zero options for guided anglers to river fish for king salmon on those days. This option will make scheduling tough for many operations and

will only serve to increase the traffic on other days of the week.

Guides registered with Alaska Department of Natural Resources as a "Kenai River Guide" may not guide on the Kasilof River on days that that any portion of the Kenai River is closed to angling from a guided vessel. Reasons for rejection: A possible solution with lesser negative economic impact to Kenai River licensed guides. Will greatly help in alleviating the extreme crowds on Sundays and Mondays in king season and Mondays during silver season, but will not impact over river traffic the remainder of the week.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-049)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Central Peninsula AC8
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 318 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Restrict same day guiding on both Kenai and Kasilof rivers as follows:

Guides must either fish on the Kenai or Kasilof River on a given day.

ISSUE: Same day guide fishing on the Kasilof and Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Strains the resource, adds pressure to both rivers.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Less pressure on both rivers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? More fish for the future.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Kasilof River Land Owners Association (HQ-07F-059)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Cooper Landing AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Anchorage AC9

UCIDA PC30

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 319 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Prohibit Kasilof River guided fishing when the Kenai River is closed to guided fishing as follows:

Guides registered with Alaska Department of Natural Resources as a “Kenai River Guide” may not guide on the Kasilof River on days that any portion of the Kenai River is closed to angling from a guided vessel.

ISSUE: Overcrowding on the Kasilof River, predominantly during the latter part of May through the month of June. Most problematic days are Sundays and Mondays when displaced guided king salmon anglers from the Kenai River drainage come to the Kasilof.

Placing a large number of guides that normally spread out over the length of the open Kenai River salmon fishing water in the much smaller Kasilof drainage creates an extremely crowded situation.

This negatively impacts both guided and unguided Kasilof River anglers.

Little is known in regard to overall run sizes for silvers and second-run kings in the Kasilof, so it is difficult to estimate the impacts upon these stocks, but it is extremely important to keep a conservative sport fishing impact approach in the place because of the lack of data. The Monday guided fishing effort in July and August is many times higher than what is seen on the other days of the week.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Regulations will likely continue to become more complex. Non-guided anglers may feel the impacts of needed regulatory changes to keep stocks intact. Impacts upon stocks not having BEGs in place may suffer from over-exploitation as overall guided effort increases.

The quality of the sport fishery will continue to deteriorate for both guided and unguided anglers. This has negative impacts for both user groups and will create a negative long-term effect for Kasilof-based businesses and guides.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? If no action is taken, the quality of the experience for both guided and unguided sports anglers will continue to decrease.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This proposal will decrease overall guided angler effort on the Kasilof, thus there will be overall less impact on fish stocks. In addition, beneficiaries include: all non-guided anglers; guides that have in the past or in the future plan to only guide upon the Kasilof River; guided anglers wishing to experience the Kasilof River fisheries on any day of the week with a more manageable number of guided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Kenai River-licensed guides that normally switch to the Kasilof River on days that the Kenai River is closed to angling from a boat will likely

see some revenue loss.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Several other options would help alleviate the issue to a lesser degree and have also been proposed. This is perhaps the most radical of the currently available options to the BOF, but would likely have the most impact upon decreasing river traffic. Some of the other options are listed below and reasoning mentioned:

Close the Kasilof River to all guided king fishing on Sunday (currently in place for July) and / or Monday to follow suit with current Kenai River regulations.

Reasons for rejection: a small number of guides operate strictly on the Kasilof River, they are already economically limited by the regulation that only allows one trip daily. There is little reason to deliver a second economic blow to these guides due to the influx of guides that normally operate elsewhere. The decrease of guided anglers on Sundays and Mondays per the primary proposal should alleviate any need for “non-guided” days to make for a better experience for the non-guided angler and decrease impact on stocks.

By not having Sunday and/or Monday as an option for guided anglers to fish for king salmon on the Kasilof, that would mean there would be zero options for guided anglers to river fish for king salmon on those days. This option will make scheduling tough for many operations and will only serve to increase the traffic on other days of the week.

Guides may not run trips on both the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers on the same calendar day, regardless of the fact if the clients are the same or not.

Reasons for rejection: Another possible, yet less-restrictive measure to help curb overall crowding on the Kasilof, but obviously not an issue on the days that the Kenai is “closed” (via angling from boat restrictions) to guided king salmon fishing.

Cap guide numbers on the Kenai and/or Kasilof River drainages.

Reason for rejection: Obviously, the most obvious way to get this situation under control. However, it is unlikely to be put into place at this time.

PROPOSED BY: Robert L. Ball, Jr.

(HQ-07F-051)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 320 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Restrict Kasilof River guided fishing on Mondays as follows:

No fishing from a registered sport fishing guide vessel on the Kasilof River on Mondays January 1 though July 31.

ISSUE: Kasilof River guided fishing on Mondays. From January 1 through July 31.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The Kenai River guided fishing on Mondays, from January 1 through July 31.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Quality of fishing will improve on what is now the busiest day of the week.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Bank anglers and unguided fishing boats will benefit. Less boats, less crowding. Safety will increase with less boat activity.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guides would lose that day of revenue.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Kasilof River Land Owners Association (HQ-07F-060)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9

Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 321 - 5 AAC 57.140(b)(c). Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow Kenai River guides to operate on Sundays in May and June, and no hour restrictions in May as follows:

Go back to pre 1998 guide hours. No Mondays in May, June, July. 6 am to 6 pm, June and July. No Sundays, Mondays 6 am to 6 pm in July only.

ISSUE: Private anglers who wish to use the services of a guide must take off work to be able to fish. I can fish multiple times a year with a guide for the money it would cost me to buy my own boat and tackle. Prior to 1998, I could go with my guide after work or on Sundays, my only day off in the summer is Sunday.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? I will have to continue to go not so successful trips with private boat owners. I still have to compensate them with favors or pay for gas. I hate feeling like I owe someone. I'd rather hire a guide and be done with the deal and I usually catch fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? I can't say it would make my fish better, but it would improve my experience on the recovers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Alaska residents who don't own a boat and work 6 days a week could go with a guide in May and June when pressure is low. This action was taken to help pressure first run kings, since this was put in place the first run escapement has been lowered and the slot limit is in effect.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered recommending that all hours and days be made to match private beaters, because I am a owner of this recourse just like the guy who owns a boat. I decided that this would be too controversial to the private boat owner, who thinks all of us that down on boats have less rights.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Waters

(HQ-07F-210)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 322 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Repeal the guide boat prohibition on Mondays in the Kenai River as follows:

Simply remove the regulation from the book.

ISSUE: Repeal the guide boat prohibition on Mondays on the Kenai River.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Visitors who can only fish on a Monday are prohibited from hiring a guide to take them silver fishing on the Kenai River.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Currently, if people want to hire a guide on Mondays they have to go to Bing's Landing and go trout fishing. A huge waste fuel.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who want to hire a guide to go silver fishing on Mondays.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: David Richards

(HQ-07F-470)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 323 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow guides to fish from drift boats on the Kenai River in July as follows:

All drift boats are allowed on Mondays.

ISSUE: Allow guides to fish from drift boats on the Kenai River in July.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Restricted opportunity.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who fish with guides.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: David Richards

(HQ-07F-469)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Richard Hahn PC13
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Anchorage AC9

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 324 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow a guide boat on the Kenai River to carry six persons instead of five during the month of July as follows:

No more than 6 people in a boat.

ISSUE: Change passenger load limit for guide boats from 4 to 5 persons; the same as non-guide boats.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? This is a huge problem for many guides. We often have to split up family groups who wish to fish together.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Fewer boats on river.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Families who fish with guides.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo.

PROPOSED BY: David Richards

(HQ-07F-466)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game
Advisory Committee AC3
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition
PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 325 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Designate one day per week on the Kenai late run to guided anglers only as follows:

Designate one day a week on the Kenai River late run to guided anglers only.

ISSUE: The unguided private angler wants their one day a week to fish without guides and in less crowded conditions. Guided anglers should get the same opportunity to fish in less crowded conditions, without interference of inexperienced boaters. Solutions to crowding should be shared by all

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Unguided anglers will continue to have a day a week to fish in less crowded conditions while guided anglers have to fish every day with inexperienced boater and crowded conditions. Burden of crowding should be shared by all users.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Guided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Unguided anglers.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Mel Erickson

(HQ-07F-376)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 326 - 5 AAC 57. 140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Allow guided fishing 7 days per week with each individual guide allowed 5 days per week on the Kenai as follows:

Allow guided fishing 7 days a week, but each individual guide would only be allowed to fish 5 days a week. Enforcement and reporting could be done with daily activity reports instead of end of season reports.

ISSUE: Current regulations jam all the guides and guided trips into a 5 day period, spread the use out over a 7 day period without increasing the total number of days a individual guide can fish.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guided anglers will continue to be funneled into small time frames for several fisheries. The Kenai Tues-sat, Kasilof, Cook Inlet and west side fly outs on Sun. and Mon. You could reduce crowding and increase quality of all fisheries.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The Kenai River fishery, Kasilof, Deep Creek Marine and west side fly out fisheries would all benefit, along with both guided and unguided anglers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Open all fisheries 7 days a week for all anglers.

PROPOSED BY: Mel Erickson

(HQ-07F-377)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Richard Hahn PC13
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 327 - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Eliminate Sunday closure for guides on the Kasilof River as follows:

Drop the Sunday closure.

ISSUE: Sunday closure for guides on the Kasilof.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? People are prohibited from fishing the Kenai and Kasilof on Sundays.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? People will have the option of fish with a guide on Sundays in July.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Many people.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Status quo.

PROPOSED BY: David Richards

(HQ-07F-467)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Cooper Landing Fish and
Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai/Soldotna AC7

Kenai Area Fisherman's
Coalition PC9
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 328 - 5 AAC 57.140. Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Modify regulation prohibiting fishing by sport fishing guides when clients are present on the Kenai River as follows:

(h) from January 1 – December 31, a person who is a sport fishing guide, as defined in 5 AAC 75.995, may not sport fish while a client is present or is within the guide’s control or responsibility, except when guiding a client with a disability; for the purposes of this subparagraph, ‘disability’ has the meaning given in 42 U.S.C. 12102(2)(A) and (C), as amended as of February 8, 1994.

ISSUE: Regulations prohibiting guides from fishing while clients are present currently exist in the Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 57.170) and for the king salmon season in Department of Natural Resources regulations (11 AAC 18.030). The regulation within the Kenai River Coho Salmon Management Plan applies to all waters of the Kenai River drainage from July 31 through October 31. The DNR regulation is a stipulation under a noncompetitive park use permit for commercial activities and applies the waters of the Kenai River Special Management Area during May, June, and July. The Kenai River Special Management Area does not apply to those waters below the Warren Ames Bridge. This proposal would cover those waters missed by the DNR regulation and simplify the existing regulations.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Guides could continue to fish while clients are present in the Kenai River below the Warren Ames Bridge. The public and enforcement officers will continue to search for fishing regulations under two different governing bodies.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Guided and unguided anglers will not have to compete with guides who fish while clients are present. Centralized and simplified regulations benefit all users.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? The small number of guides who currently fish when clients are present below the Warren Ames Bridge.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-07F-285)

FAVOR **OPPOSE**

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee
AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9

Richard Hahn PC13

Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 329 - 5 AAC 57.140(a). Kenai River guiding and guided fishing requirements in the Kenai River Drainage Area. Align vessel registration regulations with DNR requirements that allow for un-registering guide vessels as follows:

(a) In addition to the requirements of 5 AAC 75.075 – 5 AAC 75.077, and before providing sport fishing guide services on the Kenai River, a sport fishing guide and vessel must be registered at the Soldotna office of the Department of Natural Resources, division of parks and outdoor recreation. Once registered, a vessel registration remains valid for the remainder of the calendar year **unless the vessel is deregistered with the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.**

ISSUE: ADFG regulations and DNR noncompetitive park use permit stipulations regarding the registration/deregistration of a Kenai River guide vessel are in conflict. ADFG regulations do not contain the language found in DNR stipulations which allow for deregistration of a guide vessel once a vessel is no longer used to guide anglers at the end of a fishing season. This is a housekeeping proposal.

Deregistering a guide vessel previously registered with DNR for the purpose of guiding anglers on the Kenai River allows for the private use of the vessel for the remainder of the calendar year. Deregistering a guide vessel is a common practice on the Kenai River. Many guides will conclude their guiding season during August and deregister their guide vessels with DNR which requires removing the required guide stickers from their vessel hulls. Once a vessel is deregistered, the vessel may be used as an unguided vessel. This allows guides use their deregistered vessels to fish with their family, friends, and relatives after the peak of the guiding season concludes and the guides are no longer commercially operating.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? DNR and ADFG regulations will continue to conflict.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers who want to fish from a deregistered guide vessel.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Anglers competing with other anglers fishing from a deregistered guide vessel.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-286)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Cooper Landing Fish and Game Advisory Committee AC3
Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition PC9
Kenai/Soldotna AC7
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 330 - 5 AAC 61.112(5)(A). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Reduce open periods for king salmon sport fishing in Alexander Creek drainage as follows:

5 AAC 61.112(5) in the Alexander Creek drainage,

(A) king salmon may be taken only **on the weekends and the Monday following each weekend** from January 1 – June 30; bag and possession limit is one fish 20 inches or greater in length;; after taking and retaining a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, a person may not sport fish for king salmon on that same day;

ISSUE: King salmon harvest levels in Alexander Creek are at unsustainable levels. The department has conducted aerial surveys to index the number of spawning king salmon on Alexander Creek since 1978. The escapement goal range established by the department for king salmon escapements into Alexander Creek is between 2,100 and 6,000 spawning fish. Due to low escapements of king salmon to NCI waters in the early 1990s the BOF took action to reduce the sport harvest of king salmon for all NCI streams. As a result of continuing poor escapements to Alexander Creek the BOF took further restrictive action in an effort to further reduced sport fish harvest to this system. These restrictions included; closing king salmon fishing upstream of Trail Creek and shortening the season from July 13 to June 30. In the three (3) of past five (5) years, 2002-2006, Alexander Creek has failed to achieve the lower limit of the SEG, and for two (2) of those years escapements were only slightly above the lower limit of the goal. During 2006, the escapement of king salmon into Alexander Creek was the lowest on record with only 885 spawning fish is being observed. Given the poor escapements to this system in recent years it is warranted to implement further restrictive regulations that will reduce the sport harvest on this system.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? King salmon escapements to Alexander Creek will probably continue to remain below the escapement goal range.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, over time, the escapement will increase and stabilize and continue to provide sport fishing opportunity.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? In the long term, all anglers and business operators (guides and lodge operations) that would like to participate in this fishery in the future.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? In the short term , those anglers and guides that fish for king salmon during the week or would like to harvest more than one king salmon per year from this system.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Completely closing Alexander Creek to king salmon fishing. This option is rejected however, as the department believes that northern pike populations may have reached an equilibrium on this system and that a reduced sport harvest for king salmon will likely be sustainable at current escapement levels.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-07F-290)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9

Colin Towse PC4

Mat-Valley AC10

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45

Colin Towse PC5
John Andrighetti
PC11

UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

KRSA PC27

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 331 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close Alexander Creek to king salmon fishing for four years, no catch and release.

ISSUE: Over fishing, low count on king salmon down to 880 from 2,500, close king fishing for four years.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? King salmon will be down to a complete loss. Pike overrun on creek eat smolt.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, improved fishing later on (like the Deshka River).

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Future fishermen.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Lodges.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Each lodge, foreign fishermen should have regular guide.

PROPOSED BY: Francis Buckwalter (HQ-07F-003)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Colin Towse PC4
Colin Towse PC5
John Andrighetti PC11

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 332 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close Alexander Creek for 3-4 years and let it come back. Get the escapement we should have not 800-2000 (like Deshka).

ISSUE: Over the past ten years the king salmon population has gone away.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? No king salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Just maybe, our grandkids will see.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Most Alaska residents, all fishermen and future generations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? A small percentage.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Closing May 15 - June 15, open June 16 - June 31. Sometimes the fish come in late.

PROPOSED BY: Kris Draper (HQ-07F-005)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52
KRSA PC27

Matanuska Valley AC5
Anchorage AC9
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Colin Towse PC4
Colin Towse PC5
John Andrighetti PC11

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 333 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

No fishing in Alexander Creek for a few years.

ISSUE: Number of fish low.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? There will be no fish.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Lodge owners.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Ron Stark

(HQ-07F-007)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52
KRSA PC27

Matanuska Valley AC5
Anchorage AC9

Mat-Valley AC10
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Colin Towse PC4
John Andrighetti PC11

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 334 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Close king salmon fishing on Alexander Creek as follows:

Close the Alexander Creek drainage and the confluence with the Big Su to king fishing until the fish are able to withstand the harvest.

ISSUE: The declining number of kings in Alexander Creek.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? King salmon numbers will continue to decline until they disappear altogether.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Gary S. Bell

(HQ-07F-234)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Colin Towse PC4
Colin Towse PC5

John Andrighetti PC11

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 335 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow 24 hour fishing for king salmon in Unit 1 of the Susitna River drainage as follows:

Delete: [IN WATERS OPEN TO KING SALMON FISHING, INCLUDING THE DESHKA RIVER, FISHING IS NOT ALLOWED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 11 P.M. AND 6 A.M. MAY 15 - JULY 13.]

ISSUE: Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage has a regulation prohibiting fishing in waters open to king salmon fishing between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6a.m. This regulation is unnecessary as evidenced by the fact that ADF&G issued emergency orders opening a portion of Unit 1 (Deshka River) to 24 hour per day fishing in 2005, 2006 and will most likely issue a similar emergency order in 2007. Further more, upstream in Unit 2 of the Susitna River drainage king salmon regulations allow fishing 24 hours per day.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If nothing is done sport fishing for all species of fish in Unit 1 waters open to king salmon fishing will continue to be unnecessarily restricted and the regulation book will remain cluttered with this regulation.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All sport anglers of Unit 1 would benefit from simpler regulations. Anglers who would like to fish waters open for king salmon, for any species of fish, between the hour of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. could do so. With pressure spreading over additional hours, anglers would enjoy less crowding.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People choosing to start fishing at 6.a.m. may have to fish longer before catching a king salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Alexander Creek, where king salmon escapements have been low recently, could be excluded from this proposal. However, Susitna drainage history shows this hour restriction has not been a very effective tool for increasing king salmon escapement numbers.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-109)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 336 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow use of bait for king salmon fishing in Unit 1 of the Susitna River drainage as follows:

Amend the Unit 1 king salmon regulation to read: from September 1 - **May 15** [JULY 13], only unbaited artificial lures are allowed in the flowing waters of the Susitna River drainage upstream from its mouth to its confluence with the Deshka River.

ISSUE: Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage has a regulation prohibiting the use of bait during the entire season when king salmon are present and open to fishing. This regulation was adopted in a broad brush approach through out the Susitna Drainage to address lower than desired king salmon escapements back in 1996. The problem is that even after king salmon production has rebounded (with the exception of Deshka River) there remains no opportunity to fish with bait for king salmon in the entire Susitna River system.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Anglers will continue to be denied even limited opportunities to fish with bait for king salmon even though king salmon stocks are currently healthy.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers who would like Susitna River drainage opportunities to fish bait for king salmon. Anglers fishing other parts of the Susitna River drainage could benefit from less crowded fishing conditions whenever someone else chose to fish the proposed area where bait would be allowed.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Aside from Deshka River, where bait is already allowed, and Alexander Creek, where bait should likely not be allowed, Unit 1 can be characterized as primarily a large glacial river providing little opportunity to harvest king salmon and very little fishing effort except for a few small pockets where clear water rains into the main river. Harvesting relatively low numbers of king salmon as they milled around before passing through these clear water pockets would likely somewhat reduce harvests upstream at more popular king salmon fishing areas.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? The Board may want to exclude Alexander Creek and flowing waters within 1/4 mile of its confluence with the Susitna River from this proposed regulation change. This would maintain protection of Alexander Creek fish, and be an agreeable solution.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-110)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5
Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association
PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 337 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Raise daily bag limit for king salmon in Deshka River as follows:

Raise the Deshka River daily king salmon bag limit to **2 king salmon** [1 KING SALMON].

ISSUE: For several years ADF&G has been raising the Deshka River king salmon limit to two king salmon per day by emergency order. During 2005 and 2006 ADF&G increased the limit on the Friday before Memorial Day weekend - a time when the most recent reliable information justifying the Emergency Order can only be Deshka River Weir data from pervious years(s). The announcement of the increased limit only happens 3 days prior to the action, giving sport fishermen and sport fishing businesses very little time to plan ahead. If nothing is done, the Deshka River king salmon sport fishery may continue to be managed in a manner than somewhat minimizes benefits derived from the fishery.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Deshka River king salmon escapements have exceeded the goal range for the past 8 years, including several years when the river was liberalized by emergency order to a two king salmon daily limit. If nothing is done, sport fishermen will be left to guess when and if an emergency order will occur. Anglers fishing before the emergency order occurs may continue to be unnecessarily restricted, since ADF&G has past years' weir data months in advance of when the emergency orders have been issued.

Use of emergency orders liberalizing popular sport fisheries often create unnatural crowding the first several days of week after an E.O. is issued. Crowded fishing conditions often means lower success rates, so emergency order liberalizations that have been made for three or more years in a row should always be prime candidates for encoding into regulation.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All Deshka River king salmon anglers would benefit from knowing the limit will be 2 kings per day. At this point in time there is obviously enough king salmon to provide for this opportunity as evidenced by ADF&G's use of emergency orders raising the limit to that level over several years time, and several years of continued escapements above the goal range.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Newspaper reporters and TV news reporters may lose their yearly story about the "unanticipated" emergency order increasing the Deshka king salmon daily bag limit to two king salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? The Board of Fisheries could adopt a Deshka

River King Salmon Management Plan with weir count trigger points for such things as increasing or decreasing the bag limit, allowing or restricting the use of bait, when to allow a king salmon season extension, or when to extend the area open to king salmon fishing.

Weir data is often considered some of the very best fishery data available, but a weir operation is expensive. On a stream with 10 or more years of weir data available it makes sense to utilize this extremely valuable data to manage the fishery for maximum benefits. A management plan with some of the above trigger points could maximize benefits from the fishery, while at the same time letting the public know what to expect with varying levels of salmon returns. After all, what is to be gained by keeping the public in the dark with emergency order regulations that may seem to come out of the blue?

During the past few board cycles I've proposed and lobbied the Board to create a Deshka River King Salmon Management Plan. I would be glad to see such a development, however, if the board members chose to continue without one, I hope the long used two king salmon daily bag limit can be adopted as a regulation that Deshka River king salmon anglers can plan and count on from the start of each year.

PROPOSED BY: Andy Couch

(HQ-07F-121)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC5	Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association	Mt. Yenlo AC6
Mat-Valley AC10	PC45	Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41	Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52	UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 338 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow 24-hour fishing in Deshka River as follows:

Amend as follows: In waters open to king salmon fishing, **excluding the Deshka River and all flowing waters within one half mile from its confluence with the Susitna River.** fishing is not allowed between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. May 15 - July 13

ISSUE: Deshka River has a regulation prohibiting fishing in waters open to king salmon fishing between the hours of 11p.m. and 6a.m. This regulation is unnecessary as evidence by the fact that ADF&G issued emergency orders opening Deshka River to 24 hours per day king salmon fishing in 2005, 2006, and will most likely issue a similar emergency order in 2007. Harvestable surplus king salmon are available, as Deshka River king salmon escapements have exceeded the escapement goal range for the past 8 years.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If nothing is done sport fishing for all species of fish in the Deshka River open to king salmon fishing will continue to be unnecessarily restricted from May 15 - July 13.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Deshka River anglers who would like to fish waters open for king salmon, for any species of fish, between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. would benefit from the opportunity to do so.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People choosing to start fishing at 6 a.m. may have to fish longer before catching a king salmon.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I prefer the proposal submitted by Matanuska Valley Fish and Game Advisory Committee that would allow 24 hour king salmon fishing in all of Unit 1, however, if the Board decides not to adopt that proposal. I am providing this option specific to Deshka River.

PROPOSED BY: Andy Couch (HQ-07F-122)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 339 - 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Extend king salmon season in the Deshka River based upon escapement counts as follows:

5 AAC 61.022

When king salmon escapement past Deshka River Weir exceeds the escapement range midpoint on or before July 10, then downstream of the weir, the Deshka River king salmon season shall be extended through July 31.

ISSUE: For the past 8 years from 1999 - 2006 the king salmon escapement through Deshka River Weir has exceeded the top end of the biological escapement goal (BEG) range, yet identifiable surplus king salmon may not be harvested from the Deshka after July 13.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The lower 7 miles is the most heavily fished section of Deshka River, and anglers will continue fishing here on a daily basis into August. Surplus harvestable king salmon will continue to be caught on a daily basis. Regulations will continue to outlaw harvest of these abundant king salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? This change, if adopted, would allow a season length currently used on larger sections of the Klutina, Kenai and Kasilof Rivers on a more conservative 7 miles of Deshka River during years of high returns. Mat-Su Valley and Anchorage anglers could fish for king salmon closer to home. Anglers fishing other rivers could enjoy less crowded fishing conditions as a result.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who prefer no legal sport harvest of surplus Deshka River king salmon after July 13.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? ADF&G extended the Deshka River king salmon season through July 31 on the lower 2 miles of river in 2005. More opportunity and harvest could be allowed while still safeguarding the spawning escapement if the fishery was opened up to the weir closure marker.

PROPOSED BY: Fishtale River Guides

(HQ-07F-124)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Anchorage AC9
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's
Association PC45

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Mat-Valley AC10
Sustina Valley AC11

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 340 - 5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Amend season dates for king salmon fishing in Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage as follows:

Amend Susitna River drainage, Unit 2 king salmon seasons as follows: January 1 through third Monday in June, **then each following Saturday, Sunday, and Monday through July 13.** [SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY FOR THE NEXT THREE WEEKS]

ISSUE: The Unit 2 Susitna River drainage king salmon fishing season should be adjusted to make season length more consistent on a yearly basis, more consistent with the Unit 2 artificial lure regulations ending date of July 13, and maximize fishing opportunity, while ending the season more consistently with most Susitna River drainage king salmon seasons which run through July 13.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If nothing is done the Unit 2 king salmon season length will remain inconsistent in length on a yearly basis, and on years with less season length will provide less than maximum benefit, even though Unit 2 drainage open to king salmon fishing are already protected by extensive spawning area closures and all king salmon fishing is currently prohibited on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in late June through mid-July.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Sport fishermen who prefer a more consistent Unit 2 king salmon season length that is easier to understand will benefit.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-108)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41 | Kenai Peninsula Fishermen's Association PC45 | Matanuska Valley AC5 |
| | | Mt. Yenlo AC6 |
| | | Anchorage AC9 |
| | | Anchorage AC9 |
| | | Mat-Valley AC10 |
| | | UCIDA PC30 |

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 341 - 5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow multiple hooks two weeks earlier for king salmon fishing in Unit 2 of the Susitna River drainage as follows:

In flowing waters of Unit 2 Susitna River Drainage, open to king salmon fishing, amend the season unbaited artificial lures are allowed to **May 15 - July 13** [JUNE 1 - JULY 13] and the season only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure is allowed to **Sept. 1 - May 14** [SEPT. 1 - MAY 31].

ISSUE: The Unit 2 starting date multiple hooks are allowed in waters open to king salmon fishing should be adjusted to match the starting date for king salmon hours on other portions of the Susitna River Drainage. This a Susitna River Drainage king salmon regulation starting date the Matanuska Valley Fish & Game Advisory Committee proposes adjusting for consistency.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? If something is not done the starting date for use of multiple hooks in Unit 2 will remain inconsistent with other king salmon regulation starting dates throughout the Susitna River drainage. Currently there is no biologically significant savings gained through the use of different dates, and multiple starting dates makes regulations confusing.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Fishermen who prefer simpler, less restrictive, fishing regulations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Some trout fishermen may have a perception they would suffer, but since king salmon anglers catch relatively few trout, trout fishermen would continue to catch the bulk of the trout, and there would likely be little change in the trout fishery.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? This Advisory committee is submitting one additional proposal seeking consistency in Unit 2 Susitna River drainage king salmon regulation dates.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee

(HQ-07F-107)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Matanuska Valley AC5

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9

Mat-Valley AC10

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 342 - 5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 61.120. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Increase bag limit of coho salmon for Alaskan residents in Parks Highway streams and Talkeetna River as follows:

Increase the silver salmon limit for Alaskan residents to three fish, in the east side Susitna River drainages along the Parks Highway and the Talkeetna River. This will save time and money for Alaskan residence.

ISSUE: The silver salmon limit along the parks highway was reduced to two fish during a period of weak returns, sockeye salmon fishing has been shut off for the last two years in the Susitna River drainage, and the only personal use fishery hasn't been held in over 10 years. Alaskan residents have to make repeated trips to the streams to catch their winter food supply. With the current fuel prices this is placing a burden on many Alaskan families.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Alaskan families are being forced to spend extra time and money on gathering their winter food supply.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Alaska residences that fish along the Parks Highway.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Establishing personal use fishery for sockeye salmon, but Northern District stocks are suffering from low returns.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-364)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Mat-Valley AC10

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 343 - 5 AAC 61.120. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Delay bait restrictions on Talkeetna River as follows:

Bait restrictions go into effect on the Talkeetna River (below the railroad bridge) on September 15.

ISSUE: I believe the regulation to close the Talkeetna River drainages for the use of bait for silver salmon fishing goes into effect about two weeks too soon. The lower Talkeetna River near the confluence with the Big Su remains cloudy with glacier silt until it begins to freeze in the mountains. There are fresh silver salmon arriving in the lower river until around mid-September. It is virtually impossible to harvest any silvers in that gray water on artificial lures. For those who can afford to head up the river to Clear Creek, it is no problem, but for the lower river, fishing over. I have fished that area for many years and understand the need to protect the rainbow, Dolly Varden and grayling populations from over fishing, and have no problem with that. I also know that the trout population does not begin its migration downstream to winter in the Big Su until the water in the Talkeetna begins to clear and get colder which usually happens by the third week in September. So, I just think the restrictions regarding bait use go into effect too soon. I don't think this applies to other Susitna tributaries such as Montana Creek, etc. in that those fish seem to have already turned and are in a spawning mode by the end of August.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Nothing, but a quality fishery is eliminated for those two weeks.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Allows for a reasonable harvest of fresh silvers in these waters.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Any fisherman who can't afford a boat or charter would benefit. Local residents can still catch fish legally close to the town of Talkeetna.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one that I can foresee. Those who can afford to run upstream to Clear Creek and other clear water tributaries can continue to do that.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Wayne Coggins

(HQ-07F-471)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Anchorage AC9

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 344 - 5 AAC 62.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Close Chuitna River to sport fishing above old cable crossing as follows:

Chuitna River and all tributaries are closed to all sport fishing above the old cable crossing.

ISSUE: By the next South Central Alaska Board of Fisheries cycle a coal strip mine as proposed will be operating in the Chitna River watershed. Pac Rim Coal permits request the dumping of over 7,200,000 gpd from its mining operation into three tributaries (stream 2002, Middle Creek, and Lone Creek) that make up 32 percent of the water flow to the Chuitna River. Hundreds of coal workers will permanently housed near these tributaries which produce up to one-third of the entire coho production for the Chuitna River. The present mining plan will mine up to 90% of these small streams. To protect the spawning areas and monitor the mining impacts of the area the upper Chuitna River needs to be closed to sport fishing. ADFG and private studies concerning the status of trout and salmon species will be invalidated by new exploitation rates. The Chuitna is rated pristine and easily meets water drinking standards according to EIS documents. Because mineralization is up to 900 percent higher in coal scam water as compared to the Chuitna River the dumping and leaching of hydrocarbons, sulfate, manganese, zinc, mercury, arsenic, lead, boron, nickel, and the resulting PH changes are critical for the State of Alaska to monitor. Because I have seen the impact of overexploitation and related damage to the salmon stocks in the nearby Theodore and Lewis Rivers these smaller streams and the upper Chuitna need protection as soon as possible.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? With the opening of this major coal strip mine and related roads the spawning areas of the Chuitna will be available to be exploited in an area of limited enforcement. This River is the major subsistence and sport fishing river in the Tyonek/Beluga area which needs to be protected at a time of unprecedented strip coal mining. This is a proactive approach that has worked to protect the spawning rainbow stocks and King Salmon in this same area.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? As a commercial fisherman I market salmon that directly interact with the Chuitna River water that enters Cook Inlet. I am very concerned with quality of my product and Alaska retaining Wild organic food for the marketplace.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Pac Rim Coal, State of Alaska Fish and Game, EPA, and other agencies that will monitor the impact on coal strip mining to the Chuitna watershed fish production. All salmon fisherman who presently fish the Chuitna River stocks.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Coal employees or local residents who would utilize new roads to target trout and salmon populations in the upper reaches of the Chuitna River. Helicopter guides on the upper Chuitna although they will still be able to utilize

over 10 miles of the Chuitna River.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Requesting Pac Rim Coal to ban employees from fishing the upper reaches of the Chuitna River. Company enforcement would not be practical or legal. Establishing a sanctuary much like Bristol Bay to protect our renewable salmon resources. As a commercial fisherman who is trying to keep my fish site from becoming an energy port I have limited resources to fight for this larger solution against a multinational corporation.

PROPOSED BY: Terry Jorgensen

(HQ-07F-193)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Anchorage AC9

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 345 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Require unbaited, artificial lures year-round on the Little Susitna River as follows:

Only unbaited artificial lures are allowed year round in the Little Susitna River. Maybe other rivers if this same death rate is applicable.

ISSUE: The wasted fish due to hooking and releasing coho in the fall using bait. I went down to salt water last year and was shocked to find a bunch of dead fish in the river mouth. Many had visible hook scars. I call ADF&G and was informed that hooking mortality studies in the Little Susitna showed 70 percent of coho died when released. This is a serious waste, which should be stopped.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? People will release fish without realizing they are just wasting them.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, hundreds maybe thousands of coho are wasted by catch and release each year.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Everyone as fish won't be wasted.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? People who fish with bait and waste fish

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Close the river, rejected because it isn't necessary

PROPOSED BY: Tom Olsen

(HQ-07F-235)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 346 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Allow use of bait in the Little Susitna River king salmon fishery from July 1 -13 as follows:

Amend the Little Susitna River seasons as follows: Only unbaited artificial lures are allowed Oct.1 - June 30 and July 14 - Aug. 5. Bait is allowed July 1 - 13 and Aug. 6 - Sept. 30.

ISSUE: To stabilize declining Little Susitna River king salmon numbers, and in accordance with similar declines on the Susitna River drainage and Deshka River, regulations were adopted for 1996 that prohibited the use of bait during the king salmon season on all of these waters. Since that time, king salmon escapements have improved; however, Deshka River is the only water where king salmon anglers can again use bait. Many anglers would like to once again have an opportunity to fish bait for king salmon on the Little Susitna River as well.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Little Susitna River anglers will continue to be denied even a limited opportunity to fish with bait for king salmon even though the king salmon stock is healthy.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers who would like a limited opportunity to once again fish for Little Susitna River king salmon with bait. Anglers fishing other Mat-Su Valley king salmon fisheries could benefit from less crowded fishing conditions whenever someone else chose to fish Little Susitna River in early July.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? This proposal is for a purposefully limited bait fishery at a time when most king salmon have already passed through the lower Little Susitna River. While king salmon harvests will be significantly less than if the bait fishery was allowed earlier, maintaining healthy king salmon spawning escapements is the priority. No one should suffer.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? It is possible a king salmon bait fishery that opened closer to the mid point of king salmon passage through the lower Little Susitna River (mid June), would still provide adequate spawning escapements, however, the Committee prefers to proceed cautiously.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-363)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

Anchorage AC9
UCIDA PC30

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 347 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Apply vessel restriction for fishing on Little Susitna River as follows:

Canoe only from Houston to Burma access. Outboard restrictions to 25 horsepower or less, five mile per hour limit or no wake for entire system from Houston to Cook Inlet.

ISSUE: Unsafe boating on little Susitna River system and ecological damage to river. I visited the little Susitna in August, 2006 and witnessed boats traveling in the opposite direction on hair pin turns populated with wader fishermen, and feared the boats more than the bears.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Loss of human life, significant erosion of riverbank, silting in of the river and loss of spawning habitat, due to jet boat wakes.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Spawning habitat will no longer be in jeopardy.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The salmon and the river itself.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Guide and charter operations. They operate 18-20 foot jet boats with 65-150 horsepower jet outboards and zoom the river with two to three boat loads.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Mathew Conley

(HQ-07F-001)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 348 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Extend waters open to king salmon fishing near Eklutna Tailrace as follows:

Extend waters open to king salmon fishing in Knik River drainage as follows:
Knik River drainage from its confluence with Knik Arm to a point 1/2 mile upstream of Eklutna Power Plant Tailrace, Including all waters of the Tailrace and all flowing waters within 1/2 mile radius of Knik River.

ISSUE: The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has been socking king salmon in Eklutna Power Plant Tailrace, and these salmon have been returning to the Knik River and the Tailrace since the summer of 2003, but early in the season kings are available in the Knik River but not moving up the low water channel to the Tailrace.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Anglers will not be allowed to fish where most of the king salmon are staging early in the season. Our proposed solution would also allow a larger fishing area later in the season when this small sporty fishery can be quit crowded.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? People who would like to catch and harvest king salmon from this fishery earlier in the season, and business owners who would enjoy economic benefits from the expanded fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None. This seems like a practical conservative step.

PROPOSED BY: Matanuska Valley Advisory Committee (HQ-07F-106)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC5
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Mat-Valley AC10
- Mat-Valley AC10
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

UCIDA PC30

Chickaloon Village PC10

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 349 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Allow use of bait on Big Lake as follows:

It is time to allow bait to be used on Big Lake since the dolly population has recovered and can support the addition pressure. The bait restrictions can be reapplied during the period when burbot are staging for the annual spawning migration.

ISSUE: Big Lake located at waters of Fish Creek has been closed to the use of bait for several years. The reason for closure had been due to the poor condition of the dolly pop the lake. It appears that the dollies have recovered sufficiently to allow bait to be used. Dollies in the mid to high 20-inch range are being caught on a regular bases and many in the 30-inch range.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Many Alaskan that don't have the skill or knowledge to use artificial lures or just does like using artificial lures will be kept off of Big Lake. The bait restrictions were put on during a period of managers concerns.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? The average consumptive user or young angle just starting out that does not have the experience to use artificial lures.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? I can't think of any one that will be hurt.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Allowing scents on the lures or jugs or plastic baits with scents.

PROPOSED BY: Thomas B. Knowles (HQ-07F-135)

FAVOR **OPPOSE**

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41	UCIDA PC30	Matanuska Valley AC5
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52		Mt. Yenlo AC6
		Anchorage AC9
		Mat-Valley AC10
		Mat-Valley AC10

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 350 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Establish a spawning closure and decrease bag limit for burbot in Big Lake as follows:

Under the exceptions for Big Lake, just above “Big Lake Arctic char/Dolly Varden daily limits”, it would read: **Big Lake burbot daily limits: 2 per day/2 in possession. Open to fishing for burbot from May1 - March 15. All burbot caught March 15 - May 1 must be immediately released.**

ISSUE: Potential overharvest of burbot in Big Lake. Big Lake is currently the only lake in the Mat-Su Valley open to ice fishing that is closed to fishing with bait through the ice. According to area biologists, the reason for closing this lake to bait is to protect burbot stocks in the lake. Over the past several years a growing burbot fishery has developed in this lake when the burbot gather to spawn in March and April. Burbot become very aggressive and easy to catch during daylight hours during this period, and are very vulnerable to overharvest. They also spawn in specific areas of a lake, so can be easily overharvested before getting a chance to spawn. It makes little sense to make bait fishing in this lake illegal to protect burbot, but leaving fishing open when they are at their most vulnerable.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Burbot size and population in Big Lake will decline, reminiscent of the crash that occurred in Lake Louise.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Limiting the harvest now, and allowing the large burbot to spawn, will prevent the population from crashing, allowing continued sustainable yield of this fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Future generations of fishermen who will still have a viable hook and release fishery to enjoy.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those who enjoy harvesting burbot during the spring will lose this opportunity.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? My first proposal addressed limiting the number of fish kept year round, but allowed limited harvest during the spawn. This proposal goes further by eliminating retention of burbot during their spawning time.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Runyan

(HQ-07F-436)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. #_____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 351 - 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Decrease bag limit for burbot in Big Lake as follows:

Under the exceptions for Big Lake, just above “Big Lake Arctic char/Dolly Varden daily limits” it would read: **Big Lake burbot daily limits: 2 per day, 2 in possession.**

ISSUE: Potential overharvest of burbot in Big Lake. Big Lake is currently the only lake in the Mat-Su Valley open to ice fishing that is closed to fishing with bait through the ice. According to area biologists, the reason for closing this lake to bait is to protect burbot stocks in the lake. Over the past several years a growing burbot fishery has developed in this lake when the burbot gather to spawn in March and April. Burbot become very aggressive and easy to catch during the daylight hours during this period, and are very vulnerable to overharvest. They also spawn in specific areas of a lake, so can be easily overharvested before getting a chance to spawn. It makes little sense to make bait fishing in this lake illegal to protect burbot, but leave fishing open when they are at their most vulnerable.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Burbot size and population in Big Lake will decline, reminiscent of the crash that occurred in Lake Louise.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes. Limiting the harvest now will prevent the population from crashing, allowing continued sustainable yield of this fishery.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Future generations of fishermen who will still have a viable fishery to enjoy.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those who are harvesting 5 burbot a day will be able to bring fewer fish home.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? I considered closing the fishery completely during the spawning time, and rejected this. It is already difficult, with no bait, to catch burbot at other times of the year, so by being allowed to harvest some fish at this time of year, anglers can still enjoy this fishery.

PROPOSED BY: Steve Runyan

(HQ-07F-437)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10

UCIDA PC30

Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 352 - 5 AAC 60.122(10)(B). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm drainages area; 5 AAC 61.118(10). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area; and 5 AAC 62.122(13)(C). Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Amend these regulations as follows:

5 AAC 60.122(10)(B) all Nancy Lake Recreational Area lakes[, EXCEPT NANCY LAKE,] are open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 ACC 60.120(7); the fishing gear must be closely attended, an all other fish caught must be released immediately;

5 AAC 60.122 (X)**Anderson, Memory, Prator, Crystal, and Long Lakes (near Willow) are open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 ACC 60.120(7); the fishing gear must be closely attended, and all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;**

5 AAC 61.118(10) **Shell, Onestone**, Whiskey, Hewitt, Donkey, Upper and Lower Vern, No Name (Cabin), and Lockwood Lakes are open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; **allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 ACC 61.110(8); and** if

5 AAC 62.122(13) Threemile/Takhalla [LAKE] **and Chuitbuna Lakes;** (C) open to sport fishing through the ice for northern pike using five lines; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 ACC [61.030] **62.120(7);** the fishing gear must be closely attended, an all other fish caught must be released immediately.

ISSUE: During the 1996 Board of Fisheries meeting sport fishing regulations for northern pike were liberalized in several select lakes where northern pike were recently documented. Seven additional lakes were added to this list in 2002. Northern pike have continued to expand their range both naturally and illegally, colonizing new waters, impacting both native and stocked fish species. Even though northern pike are sought by sport anglers, northern pike in Southcentral Alaska are considered an invasive species and are managed by the department accordingly. The presence of northern pike in Nancy Lake was confirmed by the department in 2006. The department believes northern pike are just beginning to take a hold in this system and there may be a moderate impact to salmonid stocks in the near future. Shell, Onestone, Long, Anderson, and Chuitbuna Lakes have outlets into major anadromous streams. Prator, Memory, and Crystal Lakes are stocked lakes where northern pike have been illegally introduced. Adding these lakes to the regulations which liberalize the number of lines an angler can use while fishing through the ice for northern pike will assist the department with their efforts to reduce these populations of northern pike.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Nancy, Shell, Onestone, Long, Anderson, and Chuitbuna Lakes will continue to be managed differently for winter pike fishing than other lakes selected for management under a maximized harvest strategy. Lake stocking may be eliminated in lakes where northern pike are prolific.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Anglers who fish for pike in Nancy, Shell, Onestone, Long, Crystal, Prator, Memory, Anderson, and Chuitbuna Lakes. There will also be regulatory consistency between waters managed for invasive northern pike.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Over time, anglers looking to harvest large size northern pike.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Control netting by the department. However, the department has limited resources for implementing an effective control netting program in so many locations, over such a large area.

Eradicating northern pike in landlocked stocked lakes through treatment with rotenone.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-07F-289)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC5
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Kenai/Soldotna AC7
- Central Peninsula AC8
- Anchorage AC9
- Mat-Valley AC10
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 353 - 5 AAC 61.118. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Increase number of lines allowed for pike fishing in Shell Lake as follows:

Add Shell Lake to the list of Lakes within Unit 4 that allow five lines for ice fishing Northern Pike.

ISSUE: The problem includes Shell Lake has been invaded by northern pike. Shell Lake is one of the most important sockeye producing lakes in the Susitna drainage. Northern pike negatively impacting the sockeye salmon population of the lake.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Sockeye salmon production will decline.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All groups harvesting sockeye salmon.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Northern pike.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Brandon Sutherland

(HQ-07F-083)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC5
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Anchorage AC9
- Mat-Valley AC10
- Mat-Valley AC10
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41
- Alaska Sportfishing Assoc. PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 354 - 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area; and 5 AAC 61.120. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow up to 12 lines for pike while ice fishing in Northern Cook Inlet as follows:

Change the regulations to allow ice fishing for northern pike using 7 to 12 lines per person in all Northern Cook Inlet area waters except for the ones with existing limitations (Alexander [slot and possession limit], Big [no bait] and Nancy lake [no pike fishing]) Changing the number of lines from 2 to 7 to 12 would allow folks to set up to five tip-ups out for Northerns and still fish with two jigging rods for other species. 12 is the maximum number that I feel a person could closely attend effectively.

Amend regulation would read as follows:

Methods, means, and general provisions - Finfish

(g) In **all confirmed northern pike waters** [SUCKER, FLATHORN, WHISKEY, HEWITT, DONKEY, THREE MILE, TRAIL, NEIL, KROTO, TRAPPER, FIGURE EIGHT, NO NAME (CABIN), LOWER VERN, UPPER VERN, AND LOCKWOOD LAKES , AND NANCY LAKE RECREATION AREA LAKES], **except**, [EXCLUDING] **Alexander, Big and** Nancy Lake, **seven to twelve** [FIVE] lines **per person** may be used to fish through the ice for northern pike only if...

ISSUE: Increase the number of lines allowed to use while ice fishing for northern pike to eradicate the northern pike populations in Northern Cook Inlet area waters (Anchorage Bowl, Mat-Su, Knik and Susitna Valley rivers and lakes.)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Besides the obvious reasons like the pike eating all of the natural and stocked fish in the area lakes, page 11 of the current ADF&G Management Plan for Invasive Northern Pike in Alaska sums it all well: “The introduction and proliferation of northern pike to watersheds outside their native range in Alaska have lead to challenges in fisheries management. Pike predation on natural and supplemented salmonoid populations have threatened economically import sport, commercial, subsistence, and personal use fisheries and have interfered with natural ecosystem function.”

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? No, it simply provides an additional option for removing Northern pike from area waters with no additional cost to the State of Alaska.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? It’s a win-win situation for everyone involved. Sportsmen who like to ice fish for pike will have a greater opportunity for harvest with the increased number of lines. This increase in the total number of lines will more than likely increase catch rates; this, lowering and in some cased eliminate threatening populations of salmonoid eating pike. For the average fisherman, the reduction in number of pike in the lakes will mean that more fish exist for them to catch. For

ADF&G, their stocking efforts will not be wasted on feeding the pike population for will they spend excessive amounts on netting, weirs or poisoning bodies of water. The area economy will also benefit because the purchase of additional gear and bait would boost local merchant's revenue.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one except the illegally introduced pike population.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? Any of the proposals in the pike management plan will cost the State of Alaska money. This idea will not cost them anything and as an Alaskan resident I think this is the way to effectively reduce the Northern pike population in areas where they are a concern.

PROPOSED BY: Daniel Franckowiak

(HQ-07F-324)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Anchorage AC9

Matanuska Valley AC5

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Mat-Valley AC10

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 355 - 5 AAC 61.120. Special provisions and localized additions and exceptions to the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Liberalize methods and means for Northern pike in fishing Deshka, Yenta and Susitna drainages as follows:

Allow baited hooks for northern pike after freeze up in all sloughs, ponds, and tributaries of the Deshka, Yentna, and Susitna Rivers with exception of the main channels allow 5 lines through the ice. No limit on northern pike November 1 - April 15.

ISSUE: The rapid increase in northern pike populations in sloughs, ponds and lakes that drain into the Deshka, Yentna and Susitna Rivers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Continued northern pike population growth is destroying salmon rearing areas by feeding on immature salmon.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Attempt to reduce northern pike populations.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All sport fisher persons.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Nobody.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Bruce E. Taylor

(HQ-07F-105)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

- Matanuska Valley AC5
- Mt. Yenlo AC6
- Kenai/Soldotna AC7
- Central Peninsula AC8
- Mat-Valley AC10
- Mat-Valley AC10
- UCIDA PC30
- Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 356 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Establish personal use fisheries in selected Upper Cook Inlet drainages as follows:

Establish dip net fisheries in Ship Creek, Bird Creek, Campbell Creek, Little Susitna, Jim Creek, and lower the turn on point in Fish Creek to 50,000. All species of salmon may be retained.

ISSUE: No personal use fisheries in the Valley and Anchorage.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Personal use fisheries will continue to be only in Kenai causing a lot of people to travel past fish to dip.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes, can be caught close to home.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? All Alaska residents.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Tom Obrien

(HQ-07F-240)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Mat-Valley AC10
UCIDA PC30
Alaska Sportfishing Assoc.
PC52

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 357 - 5 AAC 77.527 (1). Personal Use Fishery. Establish a limit for hooligan harvest in Cook Inlet as follows:

Allow not more than 1 1/2 five-gallon bucket (7 1/2 gallons) in possession.

ISSUE: Establish a limit for harvest of hooligan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Twentymile hooligan stocks would decrease.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Proposal would reduce waste - allow more fish to spawn.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Dipnetters seeking a limited harvest.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? Those who harvest as many as they can and have no regard for the future stock of fish.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Chuck Maxon

(HQ-07F-312)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

UCIDA PC30

Matanuska Valley AC5
Mt. Yenlo AC6
Central Peninsula AC8
Anchorage AC9
Mat-Valley AC10
Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____

PROPOSAL 358 - 5 AAC 77.540. Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Open a personal use salmon fishery in the Beluga area as follows:

Add Beluga to 5 AAC 77.540, “Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Fishery Management Plan”.

The permit requirements and reporting would be the same as 5 AAC 77.540 “Fishing seasons and daily fishing periods”, paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2) and (a)(3).

The regulation for fishing periods would be the same as for the Tyonek Sub-district under 5 AAC 01.560 “Fishing seasons and daily periods,” paragraphs (b)(1) (A thru D)

The gear specifications and annual limit would be the same as 5 AAC 77.540, paragraphs (b)(5) (A thru D) and (b)(6). Additionally, the net should not be attached by a method that would prevent harvesting the fish at any time and having to wait until the tide goes out. The net should be attached to a running line via pulleys or by attaching a weight (anchor), at the sea end, which will allow the net to be retrieved.

The Beluga area would include those waters of the Northern District within the mean low tide from a point one mile north of the northern edge of the Chuitna River north to a point one mile south of the Susitna River. Personal Use fishery would be prevented within one mile of any river and/or creek between these points.

ISSUE: Beluga residents have lost the personal opportunity to harvest salmon and do not have adequate access to fish migrating Cook Inlet. Approximately 10 years ago this area was open as a subsistence set-net fishery, but was removed and the only area that remains open is the Tyonek Sub-district. The Tyonek Sub-district is south of the Chuitna (Chuit) River and access is not available to Beluga residents because of private lands belonging to the Tyonek village and a gate that prohibits road access. Three Mile Creek, at one time, used to have a strong enough run of Sockeye (red), and Coho (Silver) Salmon to at least satisfy some of the needs of Beluga residents, as a sports fishery. But due to the invasion of Northern Pike in Threemile/Tukhallah Lake the salmon run in Three Mile Creek has been all but eliminated. Access to Chinook (King) Salmon has also been all but eliminated due to access restrictions on the Chuitna River and the closure to taking of King Salmon on the Lewis and Theodore Rivers.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? Beluga residents are no longer able to satisfy their needs for salmon due to restrictions and the loss of the local salmon to pike predation. The only way to access the salmon is to cross private lands which are posted as “No Trespassing”. This trespass would subject residents to legal actions even if the gate is open or would be prevented access if gate is closed.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? Yes it would allow Beluga resident’s access to the higher quality salmon and allow them to harvest high enough quantities for annual needs. Travel distance would be minimal.

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Personnel in Beluga.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?

PROPOSED BY: Duane T. Gluth

(HQ-07F-316)

FAVOR

OPPOSE

Kenneth L. Bingaman PC 41

UCIDA PC30

Matanuska Valley AC5

Mt. Yenlo AC6

Central Peninsula AC8

Anchorage AC9

Mat-Valley AC10

Mat-Valley AC10

FINAL ACTION: Carries Fails Tabled No Action See Prop. # _____

ABSENT _____ ABSTAIN _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ TAPE # _____