

**PROPOSAL 148 - 5 AAC 01.XXX. New Section.** Allow for designation of community subsistence harvesters for Hoonah residents, as follows:

This proposal would allow for a community harvester(s) to be designated to fish within the Icy Straits area described in 5AAC 01.716(a)(4). The community harvester would be able to harvest the limits of multiple subsistence salmon permits in their possession, within specified limitations similar to those currently provided for in 5AAC 01.760(e) Redoubt Bay and Lake Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management Plan. The Hoonah Indian Association believes that provisions of how this community harvester permit system works would best be left to the discretion of the Board of Fisheries.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Hoonah Indian Association proposes a community harvester opportunity for the sockeye subsistence fishery. A community harvester would be able to harvest for people without boat transportation, and low-income families that cannot afford to make the trip to the sockeye streams nearest to Hoonah. The current proxy system is inadequate to accommodate the needs of community households that lack the means to travel to the more distant systems provided for on the current subsistence salmon permit. Hoonah residents traditionally have used the customary and traditional subsistence use area described in 5AAC 01.716(a)(4). Takanis Bay, Surge Bay and Hoktaheen are all waters regularly used by Hoonah residents to obtain their subsistence sockeye, however the ride through Icy Straits in a small skiff is both dangerous and very costly. Allowing a community harvester to fish multiple households when they make the long trip out to the sockeye streams would be much more efficient in terms expense and would provide additional opportunity for Hoonah community members to harvest salmon necessary to meet their subsistence needs.

There is currently nothing in regulation allowing residents to fish the permits of other residents outside of the current proxy provisions. Under current regulations, low-income families who do not own skiffs, cannot afford the price of fuel and/or are unable to safely navigate waters outside of Port Frederick Bay in their skiffs are not able to harvest sockeye salmon to put up for the winter.

**PROPOSED BY:** Hoonah Indian Association (EF-C14-180)

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