

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Lower Cook Inlet Finfish
November 15-18, 2010, Homer

Preliminary Summary

SALMON

Fishing Districts

- C/A 1 Change western most boundary line in Seldovia Bay Subdistrict. (*Specific latitude/longitude points were adopted.*)

Fishing Seasons

- F 2 Change the opening date for the Outer District to June 1.
- F 3 Change the opening date for the Eastern District to June 1.
- NA 4 Provide opportunity to harvest salmon.
- F 5 Expand fishing districts.
- NA 6 Establish a terminal harvest area on the Kirschner Lake. (*Intent language regarding Kirschner Lake Special Harvest Area was approved.*)

Gear

- F 7 Include gillnet as a legal gear type.

Closed Waters

- F 8 Allow the historic fishery for gillnet.
- C 9 Amend the following regulations (d), (d)(6), (e), and (f) for closed waters in the commercial salmon fishery in waters of Lower Cook Inlet to include updated coordinates for closure.
- C 10 Amend paragraph (g)(1) to update the appropriate closed waters boundary line for commercial salmon fishing in Resurrection Bay of the Eastern District in Lower Cook Inlet.
- C/A 11 Amend section (b)(4) to accurately reflect updated coordinates for closed waters near the Homer Spit in the Southern District (Kachemak Bay). (*Specific latitude/longitude points were adopted.*)

CIAA and Trail Lakes Hatchery Plan

- F 12 Remove the sunset clause from regulation so as to make the Trail Lakes Hatchery Sockeye Salmon Management Plan permanent.
- F 13 Modify Trail Lakes Management Plan for noncommercial users.
- F 14 Allow PU fishery after CIAA meets cost recovery goals.

HERRING

Gear

- C 15 Allow for use of cast nets when fishing for herring for personal use. (*Applied to Lower Cook Inlet area only.*)

GROUNDFISH

Cook Inlet Fishing Seasons, Rockfish Management Plan, and Pacific Cod Management Plan

- C/A 16 This is a placeholder proposal that will reorganize and clarify confusing regulatory references to rockfish fishing and bycatch retention. (*Required retention and allowed for emergency order closures to insure guideline harvest level not exceeded.*)

Gear

- C 17 Repeal the definition of gear.

Pacific Cod Management Plan

- F 18 Open area from Cape Douglas to Chinitna Point for cod fishing.
- F 19 Reallocate cod in Cook Inlet.

SPORT FISHERIES

West Cook Inlet

- F 20 Designate a portion of Silver Salmon Creek as fly-fishing-only waters.
- T 21 Decrease bag limit to 2 coho salmon in West Cook Inlet. (*Tabled to February 20-March 5, 2011 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting.*)
- T 22 Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in West Cook Inlet Area. (*Tabled to February 20-March 5, 2011 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting.*)

Lower Cook Inlet Freshwater - Salmon

- T 23 Increase bag and possession limit to 3 coho salmon in the Kenai Peninsula Area. (Tabled to February 20-March 5, 2011 Upper Cook Inlet Finfish meeting.)
- NA 24 Change the Anchor River escapement goal from a threshold to a range.
- F 25 Management actions on Deep Creek will be same as actions taken on the Anchor River.
- F 26 Modify king salmon season on Anchor River and Deep Creek beginning weekend before Memorial Day and the following three weekends.
- NA 27 Modify king salmon season on Anchor River and Deep Creek beginning weekend before Memorial Day and the following three weekends.
- C 28 Reduce annual limit of king salmon on Anchor River from five to two per year combined with Deep Creek.
- NA 29 Reduce annual limit of king salmon on Anchor River from five to two per year combined with Deep Creek.
- NA 30 Reduce annual limit of king salmon on Anchor River from five to two per year combined with Deep Creek.
- F 31 Require only one unbaited, single hook, artificial lure in Anchor River and Deep Creek August 20 - December 31, and Memorial Day - June 30.
- NA 32 Allow bait in Anchor River and Deep Creek only after goals are met and until August 20 instead of September 1.
- NA 33 Prohibit the use of bait in Anchor River or Deep Creek year round.
- NA 34 Require only one unbaited, single hook (3/4" or less gap), artificial lure year-round in Anchor River and Deep Creek.
- NA 35 Require only one unbaited, single hook (3/4" or less gap), artificial lure year-round in Anchor River and Deep Creek.
- F 36 Require use of circle hooks in the Anchor River.
- F 37 Prohibit fishing within 300 yards of the weir on the Anchor River.
- C 38 Close the Anchor River and Deep Creek to all fishing from November 1 to king opening in the spring.
- NA 39 Close the Anchor River and Deep Creek to all fishing from November 1 to king opening in the spring.
- C/A 40 Close lower Cook Inlet streams to steelhead fishing from November 1 to king opening in spring. (Applied to fishing for all species.)
- F 41 Limit guides on Anchor River and Deep Creek to 2 clients a day; guides may not fish while client is present.

- NA 42 Limit guides on Anchor River and Deep Creek to 2 clients a day; guides may not fish while client is present.

Lower Cook Inlet Saltwater – Salmon

- C/A 43 Allow fishing from shore for early-run king salmon in the closed marine waters near Ninilchik River and Deep Creek. (*Adopted specific regulatory language.*)
- C 44 Increase total closed area at mouth of Anchor River from 2 miles to 4 miles in the Early-run King Salmon Special Harvest Area.
- NA 45 Increase total closed area at mouth of Anchor River from 2 miles to 4 miles in the Early-run King Salmon Special Harvest Area.
- NA 46 Increase total closed area at mouth of Anchor River from 2 miles to 4 miles in the Early-run King Salmon Special Harvest Area.
- F 47 Close marine waters within 1 mile of shore from Bluff Point north to Ninilchik River if the Anchor River or Deep Creek are closed by EO.
- C/A 48 Increase the king salmon bag limit to 2 fish with no recording requirement during the winter king fishery north of Bluff Point in Cook Inlet. (*Specified latitude for north boundary of 59° 46.14' N.*)
- F 49 Allow for use of bow and arrow to take salmon in Kachemak Bay marine waters except in the Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon.
- F 50 Prohibit removing salmon from saltwater before releasing the fish.

Rockfish

- F 51 Create a management plan for rockfish, lower daily bag limit, and require harvest recording in Cook Inlet.

Other

The board decided to hold its January 2012 Southeast Shellfish meeting in Petersburg and its February 2012 Southeast Finfish meeting in Ketchikan.