

**SUMMITTED BY: Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation**

**December 5, 2015**

**Proposals 66 & 67**

**5 AAC 06.368. Nushagak River Coho Salmon Management Plan**

(b) The department shall manage the commercial fishery in the Nushagak District to achieve an inriver run goal of 70,000 – 130,000 [100,000] coho salmon present in the Nushagak River upstream from the department sonar counter located near the village of Portage Creek by August 25. The inriver goal provides for

(1) the department's sustainable [BIOLOGICAL] escapement goal of 60,000 – 120,000 [90,000] coho salmon upstream from the sonar counter by August 25;

(3) a daily bag and possession limit of five coho salmon, and a guideline harvest level of 2,000 fish in the sport fishery; the sport fish guideline harvest level of 2,000 fish does not apply if the total inriver coho salmon return is projected to be greater than 120,000 [100,000] fish by August 25; the department shall manage the sport fishery to ensure that the biological escapement goal of 60,000 – 120,000 [90,000] coho salmon is achieved.

(c) If the total inriver coho salmon return in the Nushagak River is projected by the department to be less than 120,000 [100,000] but at least 70,000 [60,000] fish by August 25, the department shall close, by emergency order, the directed coho salmon commercial fishery in the Nushagak District by August 1 [July 23]; and

(1) [DURING EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS, MANAGE THE PINK SALMON COMMERCIAL FISHERY TO ACHIEVE A PINK SALMON ESCAPEMENT RANGE OF 1.2 TO 2.4 MILLION FISH (0.3 TO 1.5 MILLION FISH ABOVE THE BIOLOGICAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL) AND CLOSE THE DIRECTED PINK SALMON COMMERCIAL FISHERY NO LATER THAN 12:00 MIDNIGHT, AUGUST 1; DURING COMMERCIAL FISHING PERIODS UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH, THE USE OF A COMMERCIAL GILLNET WITH WEBBING LARGER THAN FOUR AND THREE-QUARTERS INCHES SHALL BE PROHIBITED FOR ALL FISHING PERIODS AFTGER 12:00 MIDNIGHT, jULY 23;

(3) it is the intent of the board that the lower the projected inriver coho salmon return is, the more restrictive that management measures will be in the sport and commercial fisheries under this section.

(d) If the total inriver coho salmon return in the Nushagak River is projected by the department to be less than 70,000 [60,000] and the number of spawners is projected to be more than 60,000 [50,000] fish on August 25, the department shall

(e) If the number of coho salmon spawners in the Nushagak River is projected by the department to be less than 60,000 [50,000] by August 25, the department shall close the subsistence, commercial, and sport fisheries.