

PROPOSAL 57 – 5 AAC 06.XXX. Kvichak River Salmon Fishery Management Plan. Create an inriver Kvichak River Salmon Fishery Management Plan, as follows:

Possible (Suggested) Management Scenario:

Prior to allocation period no fishing allowed. During the allocation period June 20 to July 17 no in river fishing allowed. After the allocation period extend the Kvichak upper fishing limit line to a point 15 miles up the river to commercial fishing for both set and drift net fishing. Manage the Kvichak River for commercial harvest on an every other day basis. For example: 24 hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Closed Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. In every case the actual days to be fished and timing of the fishery will be subject to daily decisions of the local management biologist.

The fishery will be open to all permitted fishers. There will be no exclusivity; any licensed processor will be able to purchase fish.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Manage the Kvichak River Fishery to increase economic recovery of harvestable salmon.

After the allocation period there are fish in the Kvichak River that could be harvested to benefit the economic wellbeing of the industry. By managing a fishery in the Kvichak River after the allocation period (currently July 17) fish could be harvested which would contribute to the economic wellbeing of the industry or the region as a whole.

Levelock Village Council is developing a village owned fish processing facility that would purchase fish from fishers on the Kvichak River. The Levelock plant will be operated with a local hire policy and an employee recruitment plan that will extend all of the villages along the Kvichak and Lake Illiamna watershed. The plant will bring increased economic activity to the area and in doing so help the surrounding economies. The facility will provide residents with opportunities for increased employment as well as allowing for the development processing technical and business management skills. A fishery on the Alagnak River after the allocation period would provide a source of fish that the Levelock Plant could complete for that would benefit the local economy after the main season has passed and into the later summer.

The fishery will be open to all permitted fishers. There will be no exclusivity for purchasing or processing, any licensed processor will be able to purchase fish.

PROPOSED BY: Levelock Village Council

(HQ-F15-062)
