

**FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 1632 Kenai, Alaska 99611-1632 (907) 283-5098  
*Protecting and Preserving the Kasilof River Aquarian System*

March 4, 2017

To:

Alaska Board of Fisheries

Boards Support Section

P.O. Box 115526

Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: **PROPOSAL 131**

Chairman Jensen;

SOKI, after the discussions held in *committee "B"* would like to **remove our support and this proposal from consideration as long as the department states their clear intent to establish a clear demarcation line between statistical areas 244-21 and 244-22 which would include GPS/Lat-Long coordinates which would include the perpendicular point west of the shoreward line approximately 1.5 nautical miles from mean high water mark, from the Kenai Peninsula shoreline.**

Discussions with Commercial Fisheries Division managers; Bowers, Baker and Shields, have indicated that they would determine the statistical boundary prior to this 2017 fishing season and publish it in a pre-season public communication. I also understand that there might be some confusion as to whether the **Clam Gulch access road** or the **tower** are the historical accepted monument for the division line. It is our recommendation that the department could consult with individual effected setnetters in this area to assist in determining an aggregable landmark to help guide fishermen and processors.

Board members should note that at this board meeting statistical areas have been used for adjustments to area management plans adopted specific to the ESSN sections (Kenai and Kasilof).

**Specifically:**

Proposal 177 amended to proposal 171 which separates 244-42 East Forelands statistical area from the Kenai Section management restrictions.

Proposal 136 amended which separates 244-32 from the entire Kenai Section and the current Kenai Late-Run Sockeye Salmon management plan.

These statistical areas are clearly defined in regulation directly or in other described boundaries otherwise they would have to be determined before they could be opened for fishing in 2017.

Clearly these are examples of "surgical" openings and accountability for future management purposes and reporting requirements on "fish tickets".

With this intent language, SOKI feels that all aspects of our **PROPOSAL 131** have been met and agree that the necessity to register all statistical areas around the state may not be necessary.

Thank you,

Paul A. Shadura II

SOKI Spokesperson

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