

**PROPOSAL 17**

**5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.**

Extend the lower boundary of the Chitina Subdistrict downstream to the Uranatina River, as follows:

(h) For the purposes of this section, the Chitina Subdistrict consists of all waters of the mainstream Copper River from the downstream edge of the Chitina- McCarthy Bridge downstream **to an north/south line beginning at the mouth of the Uranatina River and crossing the Copper River as designated by ADF&G regulatory markers.**

[TO AN EAST-WEST LINE CROSSING THE COPPER RIVER AS DESIGNATED BY ADF&G REGULATORY MARKERS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 200 YDS UPSTREAM OF HALEY CREEK]

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently in regulation the CPUDF boundary consists of all mainstream waters of the Copper River from the downstream edge of the Chitina McCarthy Bridge downstream to an east west line crossing the Copper River approximately 200yds upstream of Haley Creek a length of about 8.1 miles. Extending the lower boundary to the Uranatina River Mouth would add about nine miles to the length of the CPUDF. This added stretch of river is a braided area below the confined turbulent waters of Woods Canyon and would offer an area safer for dipnetting, help spread out the users of the fishery, and open up a stretch of river that would be more conducive to dipnetting out of a boat which has increased in recent years. All users of the fishery would still have to return to O'Brien Creek or the McCarthy Bridge boat launch as they do now thus not increasing the burden on F&G enforcement.

**PROPOSED BY:** The Chitina Dipnetters Association

(EF-F17-019)

\*\*\*\*\*