

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at the request of Board Member Robert Ruffner

January 18, 2019

Substitute language for repeal of Norton Sound Optimal Escapement Goals:

Repeal 5 AAC 04.358. Chum salmon optimal escapement goal ranges for river systems in Subdistrict 1 of the Norton Sound District

[(a) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE CHUM SALMON STOCKS IN SUBDISTRICT 1 OF THE NORTON SOUND DISTRICT TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOAL RANGES:

- (1) SNAKE RIVER: 1,600 - 2,500 CHUM SALMON;
- (2) NOME RIVER: 2,900 - 4,300 CHUM SALMON;
- (3) ELDORADO RIVER: 6,000 - 9,200 CHUM SALMON.

(b) THE OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOALS SPECIFIED IN (A)(1) - (3) OF THIS SECTION WILL BE USED AS PRIMARY INDICES FOR OTHER RIVER SYSTEMS IN THE AREA FOR WHICH THE DEPARTMENT HAS NO INSEASON ENUMERATION.]

Repealed.

5 AAC 04.390. Subdistricts 2 and 3 of the Norton Sound District Salmon Management Plan

(a) The purpose of this management plan is to provide the department with management guidelines for the sustained yield of salmon stocks in Subdistricts 2 and 3 in the Norton Sound District. The department shall manage, to the extent practicable, the commercial, sport, subsistence, and personal use fisheries in Subdistricts 2 and 3 to achieve escapement goals.

(b) The department shall manage salmon fisheries in the Subdistricts 2 and 3 as follows:

- (1) in the commercial chum salmon fishery,

[(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MANAGE THE FISHERIES TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING OPTIMAL ESCAPEMENT GOALS RANGES:

- (i) KWINIUK RIVER: 11,500 - 23,000 CHUM SALMON; AND
- (ii) TUBUTULIK RIVER: 9,200 - 18,400 CHUM SALMON];

Repealed.

5 AAC 01.190. Subdistrict 1 of the Norton Sound District Chum Salmon Management Plan

The purpose of this management plan is to provide the department with conservative management guidelines for the sustained yield of chum salmon stocks in Subdistrict 1 of the Norton Sound District. The department shall manage Subdistrict 1 to achieve [OPTIMAL] escapement goals for chum salmon spawning streams and to restore chum salmon abundance so that a Tier II subsistence fishery will not be necessary. The department shall manage chum salmon as follows:

(1) commercial fishing for chum and pink salmon may be opened in the waters east or west of Cape Nome, or both, by emergency order, only after escapement goals are projected to be met;

(2) in the subsistence fishery,

(A) subsistence chum salmon fishing will be opened and closed by emergency order on a stream-by-stream basis, to be determined by the department, when chum salmon stocks are abundant enough to provide for [OPTIMAL] escapement goals and a harvestable surplus;