

**PROPOSAL 109**

**5 AAC 21.359. Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan.**

Allow set gillnet fishing periods in the Kenai and Kasilof sections to be managed independently when under “paired” restrictions, as follows:

5 AAC 21.359 (e) (3) (A) if the use of bait is prohibited in the Kenai River sport fishery under (1) (A) of this subsection, commercial fishing periods **in the Kenai and Kasilof sections may be managed independently based on abundance and within each section.** with a 36 - hour continuous closure per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday, during which the number of set gillnets operated may also be restricted to either

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** 5 AAC 21.363 Upper Cook Inlet Management Plan (a) (3) in adopting the specific management plans described in (2) of the subsection the board will consider: (a) (3) (C) the various needs and demands of the user groups of the salmon resources in upper Cook Inlet: We have previously submitted this proposal in the last two UCI board cycles for consideration. This proposal would modify the way restrictive hours are utilized with the current 49.85 statute miles that comprise the eastside set - net fishery. The current plan is inefficient in that it does not allow managers to allow harvesting of abundant sockeye stocks in their respective sections; In the Kasilof section when Kasilof River sockeye stocks are present early in the season; In the Kenai section when Kenai sockeye stocks are present latter. When restrictive conservation directives are in place opening all sections at once fails to consider the objective of targeting abundant sockeye while passing Kenai bound King salmon. Therefore managers are reluctant to open either section which results in lost sockeye harvest opportunities for either section. We are asking for more flexibility in that managers would be able to manage the hours in a more targeted manner. Affording a limited opportunity to sustain an economically viable setnet fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Paul A. Shadura II/South K-Beach Independent Fishermen’s Association

(EF-F19-130)

\*\*\*\*\*