

**PROPOSAL 72**

**5 AAC 18.362. Westside Kodiak Salmon Management Plan.**

Limit the Inner Ayakulik Section commercial salmon fishery to openings of not more than six consecutive hours June 10–July 15, as follows:

No inner Ayakulik commercial salmon fishery shall last more than 6 consecutive hours from June 10th to July 15<sup>th</sup>

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to address the issue of king salmon bycatch during commercial salmon fishing at the mouth of the Ayakulik River where sockeye is the target species. The only current management tactics used for reducing king salmon bycatch while sockeye seining is non-retention. This is not a solution. These fish, highly susceptible to stress as a larger salmon, though not retained, as mandated by nonretention law, are manhandled under a load of sockeye on any given set made by a seiner and most likely not able to survive to spawn, or they are discretely brought home as homepack, courtesy of social media like facebook and instagram. King salmon have no legitimate chance of making their upstream migration to spawn when an inner Ayakulik commercial salmon fishery lasts for 6+ hours or extended until further notice at the height of the run. This is a once thriving population is reduced to the brink of extinction, stamped with stock of concern status. Fish and Game has done little or nothing to help these fish. If any given commercial opener on the inner Ayakulik were to be fished in this proposed timeframe it would have the desired effect as "Mopup fishery" targeting excess sockeye, with little ramifications for the overall strength the king salmon run.

**PROPOSED BY:** Stig Yngve

(EF-F19-101)

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