

PROPOSAL 117

5 AAC 29.112. Management of chum salmon troll fishery.

Allow trollers the use of two additional fishing lines in designated chum troll fishing areas in August and September, as follows:

5 AAC 29.112. Management of chum salmon troll fishery

(a) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, a hatchery chum salmon troll fishery only during the summer coho salmon troll fishery closures specified in 5 AAC 29.110(b)(2).

(b) If the commissioner opens a season under (a) of this section, chum salmon fishing will occur only

(1) in the waters of Sitka Sound and the Eastern Channel east of a line from Vitskari Rock Light to Inner Point, south of a line from Inner Point to Black Rock at 57_ 03.12' N. lat., 135_ 25.63' W. long., to Signal Island Light at 57_ 02.78' N. lat., 135_ 23.58' W. long., and north of a line from Cape Burunof at 56_ 59.03' N. lat., 135_ 23.23' W. long., to Kulichkof Rock at 56_ 59.52' N. lat., 135_ 26.62' W. long., to Vitskari Rock Light

(2) in the waters of Neets Bay east of the longitude of Chin Point to the longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island; and

(3) in the portions of Crawfish Inlet east of 135_ 11.05' W. long., as determined by the department for conservation management reasons.

(c) When the summer king salmon troll fishery is closed, a person may not have king salmon on board a salmon troll vessel while fishing for chum salmon.

(d) When the summer coho salmon troll fishery is closed, a person may not have coho salmon on board a salmon troll vessel while fishing for chum salmon.

(e) In the areas described in areas (1) (3) and (4) in this section trollers may use 6 lines during the following times in the defined areas. * Note that area "(4)" is the new West Crawfish area:

(1) August and September (historic enhanced chum troll run season for these areas)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? For a variety of reasons, trollers are chronically behind their enhanced chum troll allocation. The objective of this proposal is to provide a means of modifying the allowable troll gear on a licensed troll vessel, to allow the use of 6 lines for targeting chums in the areas defined in this proposal, solely for the purpose of achieving greater success of harvesting the enhanced chum troll allocation. This proposal will provide considerable positive outcomes such as contributing to the ongoing problem solving ideas and concepts of facilitating getting trollers closer to their allocation while helping to alleviate often other contentious discussions and management issues such as adjustments to time and/or area closures to net fisheries in the vicinity of these areas.

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