

**PROPOSAL 17**

**5 AAC 01.645. Subsistence bag, possession, and size limits; annual limits.**

Establish specific permit and bag limits when dipnetting from a boat in the Glennallen Subdistrict, as follows:

If using a standard subsistence permit, dipnet fishers in the Glennallen subdistrict must harvest from shore, from islands in the river, or from stationary objects connected to shore. Upon request, subsistence fishers may obtain a supplemental permit to dipnet harvest salmon from boats, with the following limits applying to boat-caught salmon:

(A) no more than a total of 30 salmon for a permit issued to a household with one person, of which no more than five may be king salmon;

(B) no more than a total of 60 salmon for a permit issued to a household with two or more persons, of which no more than five may be king salmon.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Many Copper Basin residents with intensive local knowledge of salmon ecology have raised concerns about the health of Copper River salmon stocks. The Gulkana Hatchery has not had enough brood-stock to meet its egg-take goals since 2014. Although overall escapement levels have been reasonable in the Copper drainage, very little tributary-by-tributary data are collected. Smaller stocks can easily be damaged by overharvest.

Dipnetting from boats in the subsistence fishery raises some particular concerns. Wild salmon stocks tend to hole up in deep areas and rest on their way up the river, especially during high water. Fishermen who fish from boats are able to target salmon that are concentrated in these areas. The increased popularity of dipnetting from boats since 2010, combined with the high numbers of fish that each subsistence dipnetter can harvest, could be contributing to the depletion of some smaller stocks.

**PROPOSED BY:** Faye Ewan

(HQ-F20-038)

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