



SUMMARY OF BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATORY ACTIONS

Prepared By

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Boards of Fisheries and Game

This is a partial listing of regulatory proposals passed by the Alaska Board of Fisheries. It must be regarded as unofficial, since the contents have not yet been reviewed by the Attorney General's Office, nor have they been filed with the Lieutenant Governor. The actions noted herein will not take effect for approximately ninety days. For further information or clarification, contact Greg Cook, Executive Director to the Boards of Fisheries and Game at 465-4108, or Bob Clasby, Regulation Specialist at 465-4210.

ARCTIC-YUKON-KUSKOKWIM AREA

Proposal

- #268 Increased guideline harvest levels for commercial harvest of
#270 herring as follows:
#285
- Security Cove: 750 metric tons
Goodnews Bay: 300 metric tons
Norton Sound: 1000 metric tons
- #274 Provided for an April 15 opening for commercial herring season
in the Bering Sea-Kotzebue area.
- #279 Provided that only beach seines and gill nets may take herring
#279-A during the regular season in Norton Sound. If the gill net
harvest is unsuccessful, the Commissioner may open the season
to purse seining by emergency order.
- #275 Prohibited the use of beach seines and purse seines for commercial
herring fishing in the Cape Romanzoff District.
- #282 Closed the Stuart Island area to the commercial harvest of
herring spawn on kelp. The Board is extremely concerned that
the spawning substrate for herring be maintained on a sustained
yield basis, and has adopted a conservative approach to the roe-
on-kelp fishery until a solid data base can be established.
- #72 Reduced weekly fishing period in Y-3, Y-4B, Y-5A, Y-6, while
#74 retaining the basic allocation along the Yukon River.
- #89 Established at 25,000-pound commercial sheefish quota in the
Kotzebue area.

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BRISTOL BAY AREA

- #263 Increased the guideline harvest level for herring to a range of
#255 20-40,000 metric tons. This is based on an exploitation rate of 10-20 percent of the spawning biomass, as determined by aerial assessments of stock abundance and other techniques. The herring season will open on April 15, 1980.
- #256 Allowed the use of hand purse seines not exceeding 850 meshes in depth or 150 fathoms in length for commercial herring fishing.
- #265 Established daily reporting requirements for buyers of the herring and kelp fisheries.
- #262 Closed Ungalikthluk Bay to all herring fishing to protect fragile eel grass beds.
- #100 Repealed the 32-foot boat limit for salmon fishing vessels in Bristol Bay, but the repeal will not be effective until December 31, 1981. This action will not affect the legal size limit for the next two fishing seasons.
- #92 Adjusted fishing districts slightly to allow for earlier take of salmon this year. The Board anticipates a very strong run of sockeye and wants to spread the catch over a longer time period, while still avoiding fishing on mixed stocks as much as possible.

ALASKA PENINSULA AREA

- #119 Allowed set gill nets to fish while the seine fishery is closed by emergency order due to the presence of immature salmon.
- #107 Extended the salmon season through September 30 in the Unimak, Southwestern, Southcentral, and Southeastern districts.

ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA

- #131 Extends the salmon season until September 30.

WESTWARD REGION

Management plans were adopted as regulations for the South Unimak-Shumagin Islands and the Cape Igvak fisheries. Copies of the plans are attached.

- #245 The length of gill nets and purse seines to be used in the
#249 Kodiak herring fishery was reduced. At the present time, the Kodiak herring fishery is open to entry, i.e., the fishery has not been limited by the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission. There is more than enough gear present to harvest the herring resource in the Kodiak area.

- #242 Prohibited trawl fishing for herring during the herring sac roe period in the General and Alitak Districts; reduced the aggregate length of herring seines and gill nets; and limited the amount of gear per boat to one legal limit.

SOUTHEAST AREA

- #301 Prohibited the mutilation of king salmon. This proposal was adopted to ensure that enforcement officers would be able to determine the actual length of chinook taken and prevent taking of fish less than the legal minimum size.
- #343 Required the heads of all troll-caught king and coho remain
#345 attached to the fish until sold. This change should significantly increase the recovery of coded wire tags which are central to salmon research.
- #316 Allow all trolling in the Elfin Cove area seven days a week from
#318 April 15, until August 1, 1980.

Directed the staff not to allow commercial harvesting of aquatic plants near rural communities.

Directed the staff to advertise for public comment and subsequent adoption/ amendment a management plan for the Yakutat and Southeastern chinook and coho troll fisheries. A copy is attached.

Directed the staff to advertise for public comment and subsequent adoption/ amendment proposals to limit the amount of gear for hand trollers and power trollers. A copy is attached.

Adopted a provisional hand troll/power troll allocation policy. A copy is attached.

COOK INLET AREA

- #239 A guideline harvest level of 35 tons was established for Chinitna Bay herring and a guideline harvest level of 400 metric tons was adopted for Kamishak Bay.
- #173 Set gill nets, drift gill nets, and hand purse seines must maintain a minimum distance of 600 feet from all gear types.

Approved the Comprehensive Upper Cook Inlet Management Plan. A copy is attached.

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA

Adopted the Copper River Management Plan. A copy is attached. This plan implements the subsistence priority of Chapter 151, SLA 1978. This plan specifies harvest levels for sockeye and chinook for dipnet subsistence, fishwheel subsistence, and commercial users.

- #236 The gill net fishery for sac roe herring was reestablished. The fishery will be limited to the Northern District. The harvest will occur after the seine fishery, so that roe recovery may be established as economical. The harvest will be approximately five percent of the seine harvest. The Board recommended to the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission that limited entry be imposed at a level of from 25-40 permittees.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- #391 Outlawed the purchase of roe from subsistence-caught salmon.
- #393 Prohibited the use of high intensity lights to draw salmon to fishing gear.
- #395 Provided that if an exception is granted by the Commissioner
#395-A whereby foreign vessels are allowed to process fish, the foreign vessels' operations may be terminated when domestic processing capability becomes adequate again.

TANNER CRAB

Action on all fishing season opening dates was postponed until the March 1980 meeting.

Fishermen and processors must now report any deadloss.

Deleted inspection requirements for tanner crab vessels.

Reduced guideline harvest levels are as follows:

South Peninsula District:	15-20 million pounds
Chignik District:	5-10 million pounds
Kodiak District:	10-25 million pounds
Bering Sea:	28-36 million pounds

ATTACHMENTS TO SUMMARY OF BOARD OF FISHERIES REGULATORY ACTIONS

January 1980

#80-62-FB	Cape Igvak Salmon Management Plan
#80-63-FB	South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June Salmon Fisheries Management Plan
	1980 Directive re #80-63-FB
#79-56-FB	Troll Fishery Gear Limitation
#79-57-FB	Provisional Hand Troll/Power Troll Allocation Policy
--	Proposed Regulation: Management Plan for the Yakutat and Southeastern Alaska Chinook and Coho Troll Fisheries
#77-27-FB	Comprehensive Management Policy for the Upper Cook Inlet
#80-81-FB	Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon Management Plan
#80-66-FB	Copper River Salmon Management Plan

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

THE CAPE IGVAK SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN

On years when a harvestable surplus (the number of fish the Department determines not to be necessary for escapement) beyond the escapement goals for the first (Black Lake) and second (Chignik Lake) runs of Chignik River sockeye salmon is expected to be less than 600,000 there will be no commercial salmon fishery allowed in the Cape Igvak section until a harvest of 300,000 sockeye salmon in the Chignik area is achieved. After July 8, and after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik area, the Department will manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik area will approach as near as possible 600,000 or more and the harvest in the Cape Igvak section will approach as nearly as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

On years when a harvestable surplus beyond escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 but if the first run fails to develop as predicted and it is determined that a total sockeye salmon harvest in the Chignik area of 600,000 or more may not be achieved, the Cape Igvak section commercial salmon fishery will be curtailed in order to allow at least a minimum harvest in the Chignik area of 300,000 sockeye salmon by July 9 if that number of fish are determined to be surplus to the escapement goals of the Chignik River system. After July 8, and after at least 300,000 sockeye salmon have been harvested in the Chignik area, the Department will manage the fishery so that the number of sockeye salmon harvested in the Chignik area will approach as nearly as possible 600,000 or more and the harvest in the Cape Igvak section will approach as nearly as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

On years when a harvestable surplus beyond the escapement goals for the first and second runs of Chignik River sockeye salmon is expected to be more than 600,000 and the Department determines the runs are as strong as expected, the Department will manage the fishery in such a manner so that the number of sockeye salmon taken in the Cape Igvak section will approach as nearly as possible 15 percent of the total Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

The total Chignik sockeye salmon catch is composed of those sockeye salmon caught within the Chignik area plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the East Stepovak, West Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay sections plus 80 percent of the sockeye salmon caught in the Cape Igvak section. The harvest in the Cape Igvak section at any time prior to July 25 may fluctuate above or below 15 percent of the cumulative Chignik sockeye salmon catch.

This allocation method will be in effect through July 25. The first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Cape Igvak section will not occur prior to the first fishing period of the commercial salmon fishing season in the Chignik area. After July 25 each year, commercial salmon fishing in the Cape Igvak section may be allowed on local Kodiak area stocks or specifically for Chignik River system sockeye salmon if the second run escapement has reached 200,000.

During the period from approximately June 26 to July 9, the strength of the second run of Chignik River system sockeye salmon cannot be evaluated. In

order to prevent overharvest of the second run, the commercial fishing in the Cape Igvak section will be disallowed or severely restricted during this period.

The Department shall announce commercial salmon fishing periods by emergency order. The Department shall give at least one day's notice prior to the opening of a commercial salmon fishing period unless it is an extension of a fishing period in progress.

ADOPTED: January 5, 1980
Anchorage, Alaska

VOTE: 7/0

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SOUTH UNIMAK AND
SHUMAGIN ISLANDS JUNE SALMON FISHERIES

Mixed stocks of salmon bound for distant systems have historically been intercepted in significant numbers along the Alaska Peninsula. To insure that none of these runs are overharvested it is necessary to restrain their interception.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries has established sockeye guideline harvest levels on the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June interception fisheries, both of which are based on percentages of the latest projected Bristol Bay inshore sockeye harvest as published by the Department of Fish and Game. Consistent with the policy statement of management of mixed stock salmon fisheries and traditional harvest patterns, the maximum percentage allowed for the South Unimak fishery is 6.8 percent and for the Shumagin Islands fishery, 1.5 percent. The forecasts for Bristol Bay are sometimes updated as more information becomes available just prior to the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands season, and exact numbers cannot be given at this time.

Guideline harvest levels are established with the understanding that catches will be distributed proportionately over the June runs so as to not excessively impact any segment of the runs. In order to accomplish this the following guidelines will be adhered to as much as practicable:

Weekly Guideline Harvest Levels of Sockeye

<u>Weekly Period</u>	<u>South Unimak</u>	<u>Shumagin Islands</u>
June 1 - 4))	5 %	9 %
June 5 - 11)		
June 12 - 18	29 %	28 %
June 19 - 25	51 %	41 %
June 26 - 30	<u>15 %</u>	<u>22 %</u>
	100 %	100 %

Weekly fishing periods will be announced by field emergency order and they will be adjusted so as to keep the harvest within the weekly guideline. If catches fall below the guidelines for a given weekly period those unharvested sockeye will not be added into a subsequent weekly period. If weekly guideline harvest levels are inadvertently exceeded during any given fishing period, the excess will be a portion of the total guideline harvest level. If, during the last weekly fishing period, the staff determines that no significant fishing occurred due to weather conditions, the staff may, in its discretion, permit fishing to continue after June 30.

ADOPTED: January 3, 1980
Anchorage, Alaska

VOTE: 6/0

Attachment to:

MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SOUTH UNIMAK AND
SHUMAGIN ISLANDS JUNE SALMON FISHERIES

1980 DIRECTIVE

Under the general concepts of the management plan for the South Unimak and Shumagin Islands June salmon fisheries, the Department of Fish and Game shall manage the fisheries to maximize the harvest of sockeye salmon.

Adopted: January 4, 1980
Anchorage, Alaska

VOTE: 5/1 (Schroeder opposed; Goll absent)

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
Resolution No. 79-56-FB

TROLL FISHERY GEAR LIMITATION

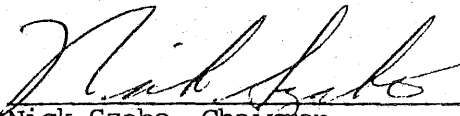
WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries limits to four lines in all State waters the number of troll lines that may be fished from a salmon power troll vessel; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires consistent regulatory regimes for salmon with regulations that apply in the waters of Alaska and that also apply in the Fishery Conservation Zone; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to stabilize the overall fishing effort currently exerted by the salmon troll fleet; and

WHEREAS, in the portion of the Seaward Biological Influence Zone north of the latitude of Cape Spencer and east of the longitude of Cape Suckling salmon power troll vessels may need to operate with greater efficiency than those vessels fishing south of the latitude of Cape Spencer because of the greater costs incurred and inability to fish for longer periods of time due to distances from harbors and often adverse weather conditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Fisheries requests the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to recommend that the U. S. Secretary of Commerce adopt regulations that prohibit the use of more than six troll lines in that portion of the Fishery Conservation Zone north of the latitude of Cape Spencer and east of the longitude of Cape Suckling and the operation of more than four troll lines in the remainder of the Fishery Conservation Zone south of the latitude of Cape Spencer.



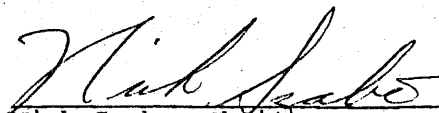
Nick Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: December 11, 1979
Anchorage Alaska
VOTE: 6/1

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
Resolution No. 79-57-FB

PROVISIONAL HAND TROLL/POWER TROLL ALLOCATION POLICY

- WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries believes it desirable to avoid economic and social disruption of existing fisheries; and
- WHEREAS, reallocation of harvests between user groups in an unplanned fashion may cause such disruptions; and
- WHEREAS, the unlimited hand troll fishery in Southeastern Alaska has been taking an increasing proportion of the total coho harvest at the expense of subsistence fisheries, recreational fisheries, and other commercial fisheries already limited; and
- WHEREAS, the Board in the public hearing process has determined that the hand troll fleet should not continue to increase its proportion of the power troll/hand troll coho catch; and
- WHEREAS, the catch proportion in recent years between the hand troll gear and power troll gear has been determined to be approximately 80 percent for power troll gear and 20 percent for hand troll gear; and
- WHEREAS, this relative catch has in the past allowed fisheries to occur without socially and economically disruptive reallocation; and
- WHEREAS, this relative catch in past years has been demonstrated to promote biological protection of the resource;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it shall be the Board's provisional policy to design a regulatory coho harvest allocation in Southeastern Alaska which will result in approximately 80 percent of the coho troll catch for power troll gear and 20 percent of the coho troll catch for hand troll gear.


Nick Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: December 11, 1979
Anchorage, Alaska
VOTE: 5/2

PROPOSED REGULATIONS OF THE
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

The following are proposed regulations regarding the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat salmon troll fishery that will be considered for adoption after a written comment period which will end on February 1, 1980. Proposed new wording is underlined and deleted wording is capitalized and bracketed.

1. MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE YAKUTAT AND SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA CHINOOK AND COHO TROLL FISHERIES. The management of Yakutat and Southeastern Alaska troll fisheries is complex due to the existence of mixed stocks and fishing pressure from multiple user groups. The Board is concerned that certain user groups, particularly those involved in inshore-terminal fisheries, may be receiving reduced opportunities to harvest coho due to the increased fishing effort on mixed stocks in coastal and offshore waters by the power troll fishery. There is also concern that increases in fishing pressure on mixed stocks may result in overharvest of individual stocks or aggregations of stocks.

Due to those concerns, the Board has:

1. established a hand troll-power troll provisional allocation policy;
2. adopted regulations designed to limit the efficiency of both hand and power troll vessels; and
3. adopted fishing seasons and areas for various gear types.

Within this framework of regulations, it is recognized that changes in run size, run timing, or fleet effort distribution may require inseason adjustment of time and area closures to achieve escapements and distribution of harvest to inshore-terminal areas of Southeastern Alaska.

The Board approves the following management plan for the Southeastern-Yakutat troll fisheries. Seasonal adjustments to fishing seasons and areas will be carried out by the Department of Fish and Game in the following manner:

1. Maintain the regulatory status quo in the inshore, coastal and offshore areas during the early chinook season.
2. Maintain the regulatory status quo in the inshore, coastal and offshore areas during the coho season prior to the July 10-15 time period.
3. On or about July 10 the Department will evaluate the general magnitude and distribution of the coho salmon run and will institute a 10 day closure of the entire Southeastern Alaska troll fishery UNLESS the run appears to be well above average in magnitude and movement of coho to inshore waters appears to be good.

This closure will assist in stabilizing or reducing coastal and offshore effort on coho salmon unless strong runs justify increased harvest. The closure will also assist in obtaining catch and escapement in inshore waters from stocks with earlier run timing instead of obtaining the majority of these requirements from late runs only. The closure will apply to all trolling, since early in the season the mortality on small coho shakers would be quite high.

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4. Following any July closure, coastal and offshore trolling will reopen to hand and power trolling in areas normally opened to each respective gear type for 7-day-per-week fishing unless later closed by emergency order.

5. For inshore waters following any July closure the normal regulations, including the 8-day-on 6-day-off fishing period for certain inshore waters will remain in effect except as the specific area regulations have been modified by the Board during its December 1979 meeting.

It must be understood that additional later season closures may be required for inshore, coastal and offshore troll fisheries if inshore run strength indicators are inadequate.

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Policy #77-27-FB

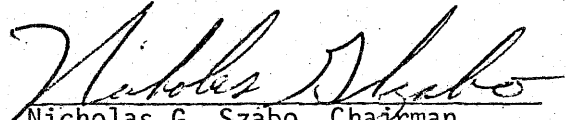
COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR THE UPPER COOK INLET

The dramatically increasing population of the Cook Inlet area has resulted in increasing competition between recreational and commercial fishermen for the Cook Inlet salmon stocks. Concurrently, urbanization and associated road construction has increased recreational angler effort and may adversely affect fisheries habitat. As a result the Board of Fisheries has determined that a policy must now be determined for the long-term management of the Cook Inlet salmon stocks. This policy should rest upon the following considerations:

1. The ultimate management goal for the Cook Inlet stocks must be their protection and, where feasible, rehabilitation and enhancement. To achieve this biological goal, priorities must be set among beneficial uses of the resource.
2. The commercial fishing industry in Cook Inlet is a valuable long-term asset of this state and must be protected, while recognizing the legitimate claims of the non-commercial user.
3. Of the salmon stocks in Cook Inlet, the king and silver salmon are the target species for recreational anglers while the chum, pink, and red salmon are the predominant commercial fishery.
4. User groups should know what the management plan for salmon stocks will be in order that they can plan their use consistent with that plan. Thus, commercial fishermen must know if they are harvesting stocks which in the long-term will be managed primarily for recreational consumption so that they may plan appropriately. Conversely, as recreational demands increase the recreational user must be aware of what stocks will be managed primarily for commercial harvest in order that he not become overly dependent on these fish for recreational purposes.
5. Various agencies should be aware of the long-term management plan so that salmon management needs will be considered when making decisions in areas such as land use planning and highway construction.
6. It is imperative that the Department of Fish and Game receive long-range direction in management of these stocks rather than being called upon to respond to annually changing Board directives. Within the Department, divisions such as F.R.E.D., must receive such long-term direction.

Therefore, the Board establishes priorities on the following Cook Inlet stocks north of Anchor Point. In so doing it is not the Board's intent to establish exclusive uses of salmon stocks; rather its purpose is to define the primary beneficial use of the stock while permitting secondary uses of the stock to the extent it is consistent with the requirements of the primary user group.

1. Stocks which normally move in Cook Inlet to spawning areas prior to June 30, shall be managed primarily as a non-commercial resource.
2. Stocks which normally move in Cook Inlet after June 30, shall be managed primarily as a non-recreational resource until August 15; however existing recreational target fish shall only be harvested incidental to the non-recreational use; thereafter stocks moving to spawning areas on the Kenai Peninsula shall be managed primarily as a non-commercial resource. Other stocks shall continue to be managed primarily as a non-recreational resource.
3. The Susitna coho, the Kenai king, and the Kenai coho runs cannot be separated from other stocks which are being managed primarily as non-recreational resources; however, efforts shall be made, consistent with the primary management goal, to minimize the non-recreational catch of these stocks.


Nicholas G. Szabo, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

ADOPTED: December 13, 1977

VOTED: 5-0

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon Management Plan

Certain Northern Cook Inlet streams as listed below will be opened to sport fishing for king salmon in 1980. Each stream has a maximum harvest level established. The following areas are open to fishing for king salmon 20 inches and over in length with a daily bag and possession limit of two per day, one of which may exceed 28 inches.

1. Alexander Creek from its mouth upstream to Alexander Lake open to king salmon fishing from the fourth weekend in May through July 6. Maximum harvest level 2,000 kings.
2. Chunilna Creek from its mouth to a marker two miles upstream and all waters within one-fourth mile radius of the stream confluence with the Talkeetna River: open to king salmon fishing from the fourth weekend in May through July 6. Maximum harvest level 300 kings.
3. Deshka River from its mouth upstream to the confluence of Moose Creek and Kroto Creek open to king salmon fishing from the fourth weekend in May through July 6. Maximum harvest level 7,000 kings.
4. Lake Creek from its mouth upstream to Bulchitna Lake marker and all waters within a one-fourth mile radius of the stream confluence with the Yentna River, approximately two miles: open to king salmon fishing from the fourth weekend in May through July 6. Maximum harvest level 2,000 kings.
5. Little Susitna River from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway bridge at Houston: open to king salmon fishing from the fourth weekend in May through July 6. Maximum harvest level 1,000 kings.
6. Caswell Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within one-fourth mile radius of the stream confluence with the Susitna River: open to king salmon fishing for four (4) consecutive weekends, beginning the second weekend of June. Closed to all fishing from June 1 through July 6 except during the king salmon season. Maximum harvest level 200 kings.
7. Montana Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within one-fourth mile radius of the stream confluence with the Susitna River: Open to king salmon fishing for four (4) consecutive weekends, beginning the second weekend of June. Closed to all fishing from June 1 through July 6 except during the king salmon season. Maximum harvest level 300 kings.
8. Willow Creek from its mouth upstream to the Parks Highway and all waters within one-fourth mile radius of the stream confluence with

the Susitna River: open to king salmon fishing for four (4) consecutive weekends, beginning the second weekend of June. Closed to all fishing from June 1 through July 6 except during the king salmon season. Maximum harvest level 300 kings.

A punch card will be required and each angler will be limited to a daily bag and possession limit of two (2) king salmon over 20 inches, one (1) of which may exceed 28 inches and a seasonal limit of five (5) king salmon over 28 inches.

A statistically designed creel census will be conducted to insure:

1. That maximum harvest levels listed above are not exceeded; and
2. Inseason management decisions that will allow altered harvest in accord with run strength.

Parallel to the creel census, maximum enforcement presence will be maintained on each stream through coordinated efforts of the Department of Public Safety, Fish and Wildlife Protection Division, and the Department of Fish and Game, Sport Fish Division staffs.

This is a revision of #78-42-FB to reflect regulations adopted by the Board during its December 1979 meeting.

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
COPPER RIVER SALMON MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION: The purpose of this plan is to insure an adequate escapement of salmon into the Copper River system and to provide management guidelines for equitable allocation of the harvestable resource.

II. COPPER RIVER SALMON RUN

- A. This policy governs only those salmon which pass the department sonar counters located at the Million Dollar Bridge.
- B. The Commercial Fisheries Division shall manage the Copper River commercial fishery to attain a total escapement into the Copper River of 350,000 salmon to insure that adequate escapement reach the spawning grounds and provide for a sport and subsistence harvest. The desired weekly escapements are shown in Table 1.
- C. The Commercial Fisheries Division shall manage the subsistence fishery on the Copper River consistent with AS 16.05.251(b) and to insure adequate escapement by restricting the subsistence harvest to the following levels (Table 2) based on escapement as determined by sonar evaluations and any other appropriate means.
- D. The department shall prepare application forms to obtain information necessary to determine what persons are qualified to receive subsistence permits described in Section III.

III. PERMITTING

- A. Subsistence Permits: Permits may be issued to persons who show the greatest level of need for subsistence salmon on the basis of:

- Customary and direct dependence upon the resource as the mainstay of one's livelihood,
- Local residency, and
- Availability of alternative resources.

- 1. Class A Permit: A Class A Permit may be issued to any person who satisfies all of the following criteria:

- a. Dependency

- i. 55 years of age or older

- ii. Annual income of no more than the amount identified in 5 AAC 01.630(b) (2) (B) and as

the income criteria regulation may be from time to time amended.

- iii. Use of a fishwheel to catch fish in the Copper River in ten of the last twelve years.

b. Residency

- i. Proximity to the resource as determined by Copper River residency as follows:

A Copper River Basin resident is an Alaska resident (as defined in Title 16) who for the preceding twelve consecutive months has maintained his place of residence and voting residence (if applicable) in the area described below and who does not maintain a permanent residence or voting residence elsewhere. The area includes Game Management Units 11, 13-A, 13-B, 13-C, 13-D as described in 5 AAC 90.010 and the Jacksina River drainage to its confluence with the Nabesna River.

2. Class B Permit: A Class B Permit may be issued to any person who is a Copper River Basin resident as defined above.
3. Class C Permit: A Class C Permit may be issued to any state resident who applies to and is determined by the Commissioner of Fish and Game or his delegate as a person who satisfies all of the following criteria:
 - a. Household size of three persons or more,
 - b. Household having one or more persons over 55 years old,
 - c. No more than one full-time employed person in the household,
 - d. Participation in the fishery for eight of the last ten years, and
 - e. Annual household income not to exceed \$10,000.
4. Class D Permit: A Class D Permit may be issued to any resident of the State of Alaska as defined in Title 16.

B. Permitting

1. When escapements of less than 300,000 are projected, the face value (number of fish allowed per permit) of permits as described in 5 AAC 01.630 may be reduced to insure that all permittees would be allowed to fish.
2. When escapement projections improve significantly during the season, face values of permits may be increased up to

full value as described in 5 AAC 01.630.

3. Permits must be returned no later than October 31 or a permit for the following year may be denied as provided in 5 AAC 01.015(c).
4. During closed fishing periods, the Chitina permit issuing station may be closed or operated at reduced hours to reduce manpower costs.

C. Delayed Season Opening

When sonar counts prior to June 1 indicate less than 250,000 projected escapement, the subsistence season opening may be delayed up to ten days to allow more accurate assessment of run strength and confirm appropriate allowable harvest allocations.

IV. COPPER RIVER SUBSISTENCE CHINOOK SALMON FISHERY:

When the Copper River dip net subsistence fishery is closed to the taking of sockeye salmon, it may be open to the taking of chinook salmon between June 1 through July 10, up to seven days per week.

V. COPPER RIVER SUBSISTENCE COHO SALMON FISHERY:

If the Copper River subsistence fishery is closed or restricted because of an inadequate escapement of sockeye and chinook salmon, the fishery may be reopened September 1 for the taking of coho salmon, which constitute the majority of the salmon at that time. By September 1, the escapement of sockeye and chinook salmon has essentially passed through the area. Also by this time, the subsistence fishery effort has decreased and constitutes less than five percent of the total effort on the fishery.

VI. UPPER COPPER RIVER SOCKEYE SALMON SPORT FISHERY:

When projected sockeye salmon escapements to the upper Copper River fall below 250,000, sport fishing for sockeye salmon shall be closed.

VII. COPPER RIVER CHINOOK SALMON COMMERCIAL FISHERY:

During years when commercial sockeye salmon fishery closures are in effect, limited chinook salmon harvests may be allowed under the following conditions:

- A. The incidental catch of sockeye salmon may not exceed ten percent of chinook salmon weekly harvest quotas when less than 250,000 sockeye salmon escapement is projected. When 250-350,000 sockeye salmon escapement is projected, the incidental catch may not exceed twenty percent.
- B. Maximum drift gill net per vessel shall be 150 fathoms of 8 1/4-inch or larger mesh.
- C. Fishing periods may not exceed six hours in length and fishing time will be set to avoid periods of maximized catch potential.

There will be two fishing periods per week unless more than 80 percent of the week's quota is taken during the first period.

- D. When weekly quotas are not obtained, no more than ten percent of that quota may be taken in the following week.
- E. 1. Weekly quotas for 1980 are as follows:

<u>Week*</u>	<u>Harvest Allocation</u>
21	2,000
22	4,000
23	3,000
24	1,000

- 2. Adjustments of up to one week may be made in the overall harvest allocation timing to compensate for seasonal variations due to early or late spring breakup or other environmental conditions.

* Statistical weeks are in numerical sequence beginning with week number one (1), which is the week ending with the first Saturday of the calendar year.

ADOPTED: January 11, 1980
Anchorage, Alaska

VOTE: 6/0

Table 1. Expected upriver escapement by week based upon percent of average weekly sockeye salmon catch from the Copper River District to produce 350,000 desired escapement and 250,000 minimum escapement.**

	Dates	Week	Average Catch	Years	Percent	Cumulative Percent	Minimum Escapement	Cumulative Escapement	Expected Average Escapement	Cumulative Expected Average Escapement	Minimum Expected Sonar Escapement (Cumulative)	Average Expected Sonar Escapement (Cumulative)
May	14-20	20	32,602	(9)	4.7	4.7	11,750	11,750	16,440	16,440	*	*
	21-27	21	102,868	(15)	14.8	19.5	37,000	48,750	51,790	68,230	11,750	16,440
	28- 3	22	144,653	(16)	20.9	40.4	52,250	101,000	73,140	141,370	48,750	68,230
June	4-10	23	132,503	(18)	19.1	59.5	47,650	148,650	66,840	208,210	101,000	141,370
	11-17	24	76,753	(18)	11.1	70.6	27,750	176,400	38,840	247,050	148,650	208,210
	18-24	25	61,650	(18)	8.9	79.5	22,250	198,650	31,140	278,190	176,400	247,050
	25- 1	26	48,838	(17)	7.0	86.5	17,500	216,150	24,490	302,680	198,650	278,190
July	2- 8	27	33,387	(18)	4.8	91.3	12,000	228,150	16,790	319,470	216,150	302,680
	9-15	28	27,032	(18)	3.9	95.2	9,750	237,900	13,640	333,110	228,150	319,470
	16-22	29	16,415	(18)	2.4	97.6	6,000	243,900	8,390	341,500	237,900	333,110
	23-29	30	10,429	(18)	1.5	99.1	3,750	247,650	5,240	346,740	243,900	341,500
	30- 5	31	4,660	(17)	0.7	99.8	1,750	249,400	2,440	349,180	247,650	346,740
Aug.	6-12	32	1,476	(17)	0.2	100.0	500	249,900	690	349,870	249,400	349,180
	13-19	33	298	(13)	0.04		100	250,000	130	350,000	249,900	349,870
											250,000	
AVERAGE			693,564				250,000		350,000*	350,000***		350,000**

* Escapement upriver.

** 80,000 - 90,000 additional spawners required for Copper River Delta spawning areas.

*** Actual escapement, including commercial, sport and sports fishery take.

TABLE 2: COPPER RIVER SUBSISTENCE FISHERY ALLOCATION PLAN

PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT	ALLOWABLE HARVEST	PERMITTEES ^{1/}	LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION
Less than 150,000	3-5,000	Class A ^{2/}	7 days/week
150-200,000	8-10,000	Class A Class B and C	7 days/week 2 days/week (Saturday-Sunday)
200-250,000	13-15,000	Class A Class D	7 days/week 2 days/week (Saturday-Sunday)
250-300,000	18-20,000	Class A Class D	7 days/week 3 days/week (Friday-Sunday)
300-350,000	23-25,000	Class A Class D	7 days/week 5 days/week (Thursday-Monday)
More than 350,000		Unrestricted	

^{1/} No distinction is drawn to gear type.

^{1/} Special permits are estimated to be 25-30 permits

* Escapement upriver.
** 80,000 - 90,000 additional spawners required for Copper River Delta spawning areas.
*** Actual escapement, reduced subtraction of subsistence and sport fishery take.