

RC 241
UCIDA

Oppose: RC 231, RC 236, RC 237

Support: Proposal 135, RC 177

Subject: Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan

1. Substitute language for proposal 135 submitted by UCIDA reflects comments made by Board member Kluberton to the UCIDA board, UCIDA members and Cook Inlet processors on February 9, 2014 at approximately 9:30am.
2. UCIDA opposes RC 236 submitted by the Mat-Su Borough Fish & Wildlife Commission which offers substitute language for our original proposal #135
3. UCIDA opposes the Mat-Su Borough Fish & Wildlife Commission proposal #139 and RC 231 "substitute language for proposal 139."
4. UCIDA opposes Board generated RC 237 prepared by Board member Kluberton which provides "substitute language for proposal 139."
5. RC 237 prepared by Board member Kluberton does not address the concerns of the Drift Fleet not reflect the new information received by the Board:

RC _____

Submitted by United Cook Inlet Drift Association

Substitute Language for Proposal 135

5 AAC 21.353. Central District Drift Gillnet Fishery Management Plan
Modify management plan to remove provisions 5AAC 21.353(a)(2)(A), (B), and (C) in the management plan, as follows:

(a) The purpose of this management plan is to ensure adequate escapement of salmon into the Northern District drainages and to provide management guidelines to the department. The department shall manage the commercial drift gillnet fishery to minimize the harvest of Northern District and Kenai River coho salmon in order to provide sport and guided sport fishermen a reasonable opportunity to harvest these salmon stocks over the entire run, as measured by the frequency of inriver restrictions. The department shall manage the Central District commercial drift gillnet fishery as follows:

(1) weekly fishing periods are as described in 5 AAC 21.320(b);

(2) the fishing season will open the third Monday in June or June 19, whichever is later, [AND] **until September 1. After September 1, the fishing may be closed by emergency order, except as provided below:**

Changed

(A) from July 9 through July 15,

(i) fishing during the first [REGULAR FISHING PERIOD IS RESTRICTED TO THE EXPANDED KENAI AND EXPANDED KASILOF SECTIONS; ADDITIONAL FISHING TIME IS ALLOWED ONLY IN THE EXPANDED KENAI AND EXPANDED KASILOF SECTIONS OF THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT] period **will be a regular 12-hour fishing period;**

Changed

(ii) fishing during the second regular fishing period is restricted to the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict and Drift Gillnet Area 1 **and Drift Gillnet Area 2;**

Added Area 2

(iii) at run strengths greater than 2,300,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, the commissioner may, by emergency order, open one additional 12-hour fishing period in the Kenai and Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict and Drift Gillnet Area 1 **and Drift Gillnet Area 2;**

Added Area 2

(B) from July 16 through July 31,

(i) at run strengths of less than 2,300,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, all fishing periods will be restricted to the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections **or Area 1** of the Upper Subdistrict;

Changed

(ii) at run strengths of 2,300,000 to 4,600,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, [FISHING DURING ONE REGULAR 12-HOUR FISHING PERIOD PER WEEK WILL BE RESTRICTED TO THE EITHER THE EXPANDED KENAI AND EXPANDED KASILOF SECTIONS OF THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT OR DRIFT GILLNET AREA 1 IN EXPANDED KENAI AND EXPANDED KASILOF SECTIONS OF THE UPPER SUBDISTRICT] **the first three fishing periods in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections and Drift Gillnet Area 1 and Drift Gillnet Area 2, all remaining fishing periods will be in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict and Drift Gillnet Area 1;**

Changed

(iii) at run strengths greater than 4,600,000 sockeye salmon to the Kenai River, there will be no mandatory restrictions during regular fishing periods;

Unchanged

(C) from August 16 until closed by emergency order, Drift Gillnet Areas 3 and 4 are open for fishing during regular fishing periods;

Unchanged

(D) from August 11 through August 15, there are no mandatory area restrictions to regular periods, except that if the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery is closed under 5 AAC 21.310(b)(2)(C)(iii), regular fishing periods will be restricted to Drift Gillnet Areas 3 and 4.

Unchanged

(E) Notwithstanding (C) and (D) above, from August 1, until closed by Emergency Order, in even numbered years, pink salmon may be fished during regular fishing periods in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof Sections of the Upper Subdistrict and Drift Gillnet Area 1 and Drift Gillnet Area 2;

New
Section

(b) For the purposes of this section,

(1) "Drift Gillnet Area 1" means those waters of the Central District south of Kalgin Island at 60° 20.43' N. lat.;

(2) "Drift Gillnet Area 2" means those waters of the Central District enclosed by a line from 60° 20.43' N. lat., 151° 54.83' W. long. to a point at 60° 41.08' N. lat., 151° 39.00' W. long. to a point at 60° 41.08' N. lat., 151° 24.00' W. long. to a point at 60° 27.10' N. lat., 151° 25.70' W. long. to a point at 60° 20.43' N. lat., 151° 28.55' W. long.;

(3) "Drift Gillnet Area 3" means those waters of the Central District within one mile 102 of mean lower low water (zero tide) south of a point on the West Foreland at 60° 42.70' N. lat., 151° 42.30' W. long.;

(4) "Drift Gillnet Area 4" means those waters of the Central District enclosed by a line from 60° 04.70' N. lat., 152° 34.74' W. long. to the Kalgin Buoy at 60° 04.70' N. lat., 152° 09.90' W. long. to a point at 59° 46.15' N. lat., 152° 18.62' W. long. to a point on the western shore at 59° 46.15' N. lat., 153° 00.20' W. long., not including the waters of the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict.

(c) Expanded Kenai Section: all waters enclosed by a line from a point located on the north shore at 60°40.35' N. lat., 151°23.00' W. long., west to a point located at 60°40.35' N. lat., 151°26.33' W. long., south to a point at the latitude of the Blanchard line located at 60°27.10' N. lat., 151°33.76' W. long., and east to a point on the beach at 60°27.10' N. lat., 151°16.94' W. long.;

(E) Expanded Kasilof Section: all waters enclosed by a line from a point on the beach at 60°27.10' N. lat., 151°16.94' W. long., west to a point at the Blanchard line located at 60°40.35' N. lat., 151°26.33' W. long., south to a point at the latitude of the Blanchard line located at 60°27.10' N. lat., 151°33.76' W. long., and east to a point on the beach at 60°27.10' N. lat., 151°16.94' W. long.;

(c) The commissioner may depart from the provisions of the management plan under this section as provided in 5 AAC 21.363(e).