

PROPOSAL 180 – 5 AAC 09.360. Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan. Require all salmon harvested in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery to be landed within the Southeastern District, as follows:

All salmon harvested in the Southeastern District Mainland through July 25 must be landed in the Southeastern District Mainland. No vessel that has landed salmon under the Southeastern District Mainland may have salmon on board when more than one mile outside the Southeastern District Mainland with the following exceptions: (1) a vessel that has landed salmon in the Southeastern District Mainland may have on board up to 50 salmon for personal use, if the salmon have been headed and gutted; (2) a boat may transport salmon landed in the Southeastern District Mainland, not covered under exception (1) above, beyond the Southeastern District Mainland provided a fish ticket is completed in accordance with AS 16.05.671 provisions and before exiting the Southeastern District Mainland. The commissioner may waive the requirements of this section when necessary.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? An incentive to underreport sockeye salmon harvested in the Southeastern District Mainland fishery exists. With RSW standard equipment in the seine fleet, extra value paid for dock deliveries in Sand Point, knowledge that the SEDM fishery is regulated on the number of fish harvested, and concurrent fisheries taking place not limited by an allocation therein lies opportunity and an enticement to misreport.

The importance of accurate accounting of sockeye salmon harvested under the Southeastern District Mainland Management Plan is clear. The Southeastern District Mainland fishery is linked to the Chignik and the Cape Igvak fisheries. All three work under a joint allocation scheme, and therefore it is important that no one area or fishery take the liberty of not completely reporting harvest numbers. There is also importance in making certain that stock assignments are as accurate and precise as possible for the purpose of run reconstruction which serves for forecasting and spawner–recruit analysis. Other advantages exist too. Tightening catch reporting standards in the Southeastern District Mainland is consistent with the Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy for the State of Alaska: 5 AAC 39.222, Section 3 *salmon management* (i)“*management should incorporate procedures to assure effective monitoring, compliance, control, and enforcement.*”

In accordance, the Southeastern District Mainland Salmon Management Plan should be amended to provide a landing requirement on the salmon harvested in that fishery. While not expected, at times tender services in the SEDM may not always be available or may be inconvenient. Further, many seiners may prefer a Sand Point delivery because of the price incentive for a dock delivery. It is therefore reasonable that a landing requirement regulation provide a means for legal deliveries to be made outside SEDM waters. Such can be accomplished by AS 16.05.671 *Transportation and sale of certain fish by an agent of the fisherman who caught the fish*. Under this statute a fisherman could easily obtain blank fish tickets to transport SEDM harvested salmon outside the area including Sand Point.

PROPOSED BY: Chignik Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F15-036)
