

PROPOSAL 142

5 AAC 21.363. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan .

Establish new commercial fishery reporting requirements in Upper Cook Inlet as follows:

To require jack king salmon to be reported on commercial salmon fish tickets. Other solutions would extend this to all subsistence and sports reporting in Cook Inlet.

5AAC. Upper Cook Inlet Salmon Management Plan

(7) King Salmon reporting requirements.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game general salmon tickets must record King Salmon as follows. Kings over 20 inches will be reported under code 410. Jack Kings under 20 inches will be reported under code 415 in the box below 410

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Accurate king salmon reporting is important for managers, the public, and harvesters to understand the true nature of the harvest. Commercial counts simply report kings under code 10 on the General Salmon Ticket. If an area reports 1,500 kings in a season it is a count of jacks and kings.

Good decisions come from good information, so a requirement to report jack kings in the box below kings with a code 415 would help in understanding the nature of the run. Cook Inlet gill nets are restricted to six inch mesh to aid in the release of large kings. Jacks are frequently caught in the same nets, but the data does not reflect this fact.

This proposal if passed would be helpful for processors who pay much less for jacks. The box is already available and would not change fish tickets statewide. If nothing is changed a kings size will be an unknown in Cook Inlet data.

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PROPOSED BY: Tyonek Fish and Game Advisory Committee

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