

Edgar Smith Area M Setnetter

Comments on proposal 140.

Section B (2)

The Dogoi section of Area M is one section that has the lowest chum per red catch by the setnet fleet. If this proposal was at all intended to reduce and save chums bound for CWAC, they would have left this section out of 140. This leads me to believe the Chignik seiners have injected their wishes to the authors of this proposal.

Section E

The set net fleet fishes 16 hours a day, from June 10th to June 24th, if they maintain the chum to red ratio of the past 10 years or better. The past ten years average chum to red ratio is 13.8 reds to one chum. This number was achieved when there were no restrictions on catch, windows or area for the setnetters. Setnetter catches 14 reds to one chum, maybe of that one chum, less than .05 percent of it, might be bound for CWAC. The management plan in place now, has and will do more to conserve chums for CWAC, than putting a more restrictive management plan such as proposal 140!

Comments:

As a setnetter under proposal 140, I will have to pull my net every day, and have to maintain a red to chum ratio for the past 10 years, the past ten year ratio would be 13.8 reds per chum. This proposal is regressive and contrary to what CWAC is trying to achieve.

After June 24th the setnetters are put in with the seiners and drifters on this management plan. It has been stated over and over, that the chums going to CWAC have passed after June 24th, and the impact on chums by Area M to CWAC is minimal and could be nile! So why is proposal 140 even considered as a viable plan for Area M to conduct its fishery in June on this time of the month!