

# HB 195: East Side of Cook Inlet Set Net Fleet Reduction Act

Representative Ruffridge

## Upper Cook Inlet Management Area Central District Statistical Areas

### Kustatan Subdistrict

- 245-60, West Foreland
- 245-55, Big River

### Western Subdistrict

- 245-50, Little Jack Slough
- 245-40, Polly Creek
- 245-30, Tuxedni Bay
- 245-20, Silver Salmon

### Lower Subdistrict

- 245-10, Chinitna Bay \*

\*Note the different boundaries for Set and Drift Gillnet

### Kalgin Island Subdistrict

- 246-10, West Side
- 246-20, East Side

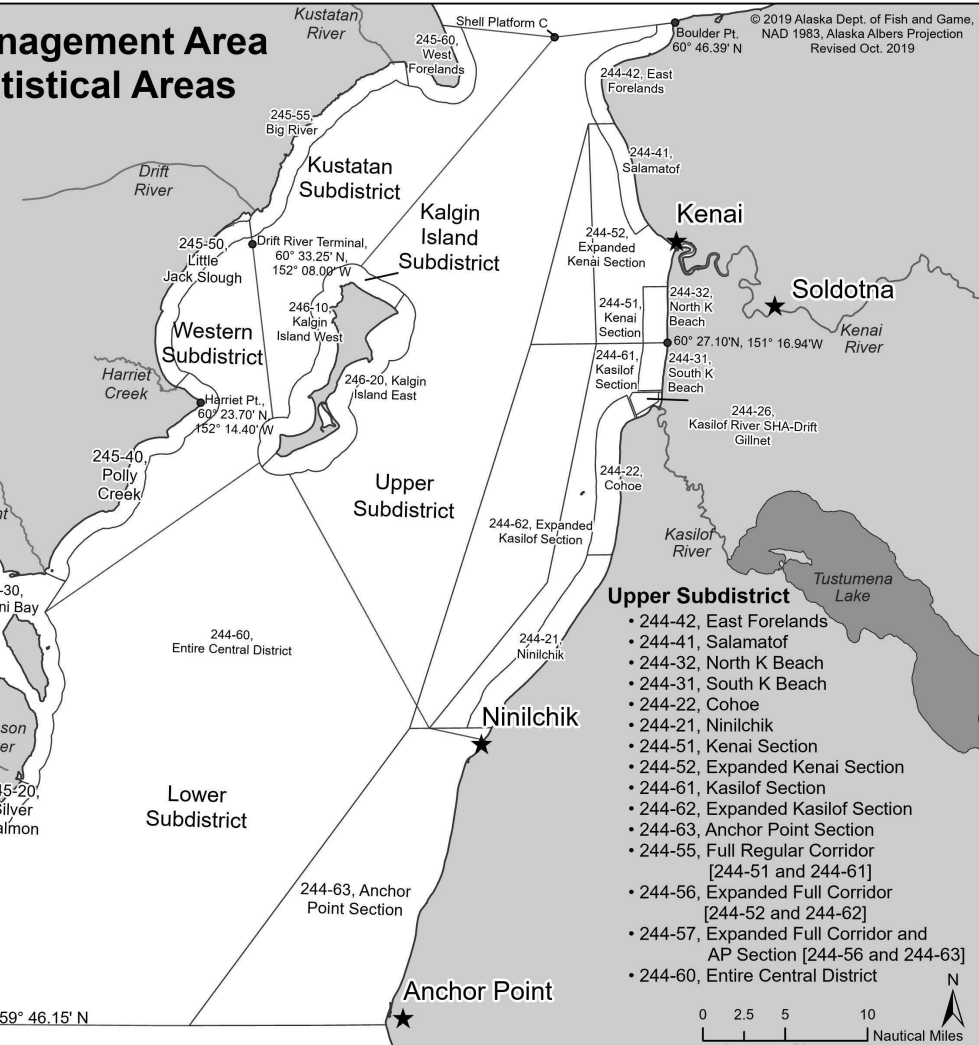
• Note: not all points displayed are currently defined in regulation; they are shown here for reference purposes only.

### Chinitna Bay Subdistrict

- Set Gillnet
- Drift Gillnet

- 245-10, Chinitna Bay

Not to be used for navigational purposes.



# Upper Cook Inlet Management Area

- The Upper Cook Inlet includes 5 districts:
  1. Northern District
  2. Kalgin Island District
  3. Western District
  4. Southern District
  5. Central District (Upper Eastside)
- The Eastside district includes areas 244-21, 244-22, 244-31, 244-32, 244-41, and 244-42
- This bill would only affect Eastside fisheries
- The Upper Eastside district spans 60 miles and includes both the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers

# Permit Reduction

## Currently:

- There are currently 440 permits registered for the Eastside district
- Currently, there are 1,320 nets on the Eastside

## Optimum Number of Permits

- CFEC Optimum Numbers study found that the optimum number of permits in this district would be between 79-106

# The Program

- Once passed through the legislature, a final vote is required to proceed with the program following passage of the law by the legislature in a formal ballot administered by the Commercial Fishery Entry Commission (CFEC)
- Develops a voluntary program for Eastside set netters who choose to opt in
- Qualified permit holders will have their permits bought back at the price of the money raised, divided by the number of qualified permit holders.
- Program financing pays for the administration of the program, which is handled by CFEC
- Requires a sunset and status report to the Legislature in 6 years

# Funding

- Section 2 (b) of HB 195 states, “It is the intent of the legislature that the program established by this Act will not have an adverse effect on the state treasury.”
- This program will not use state funding.
- Funding sources may include:
  - Federal grants
  - NOAA Fishing Capacity Reduction Program
  - Private Sourcing

# Summary

HB 195 creates an optional program designed to alleviate tension between fisher groups, preserve Alaska's abundance of salmon, and provide set netters with flexibility and opportunity.



# Question?

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[https://cfec.state.ak.us/RESEARCH/23-03N/Findings\\_and\\_Results\\_from\\_a\\_Modified\\_Optimum\\_Numbers\\_Study\\_on\\_the\\_Cook\\_Inlet\\_Eastside\\_Set\\_Gillnet\\_Fishery.pdf](https://cfec.state.ak.us/RESEARCH/23-03N/Findings_and_Results_from_a_Modified_Optimum_Numbers_Study_on_the_Cook_Inlet_Eastside_Set_Gillnet_Fishery.pdf)

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/applications/dcfnewsrelease/1546815985.pdf>

<https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/RESEARCH/12-3N/12-03%20DNR%20CFEC%20Set%20Gillnet%20sites.pdf>

<https://www.cfec.state.ak.us/annrpts/ar2022.pdf>