

PROPOSAL 156

5 AAC 77.010. Methods, means, and general restrictions

Prohibit the use of felt soled wading footwear while personal use fishing in freshwater, as follows:

5 AAC 77.010 is amended to read:

(n) The use of footwear with absorbent felt or other fiber material on the soles is prohibited while personal use fishing in freshwater.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Felt soled wading footwear have been identified as a primary vector for transferring invasive species such as whirling disease, didymo (rock snot), New Zealand mud snails, and zebra and quagga mussels to freshwater systems.

The board prohibited the use of felt soled footwear when sport fishing in 2010. Extending the precaution to freshwater personal use fisheries would be consistent with previous action and prevent Alaskans from unknowingly spreading these species retained in moist felt soles of wading footwear.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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