

(The following proposal has been scheduled for the January 2007 meeting)

PROPOSAL 254 (Formerly ACR #29) - 5 AAC 01.215. Aniak River bag and possession limits. Increase daily bag and possession limit for the Aniak River subsistence fishery as follows:

5 AAC 01.215. Aniak River bag and possession limits.

From June 1 through August 31, when subsistence fishing with a hook and line attached to a rod or pole, in that portion of the Aniak River drainage upstream of Doestock Creek,

- (1) the aggregate daily bag and possession limit is **ten** [SIX] fish, of which no more than three fish may be salmon, of which no more than two fish may be king salmon; and
- (2) rainbow trout may not be retained.

ISSUE: Harvest opportunity for resident species in the Aniak River drainage upstream of Doestock Creek under subsistence hook and line attached to a rod or pole regulations are more restrictive than the sport fishery. The Board should consider whether the current regulations provide a reasonable opportunity for subsistence use of these stocks or, whether increases are appropriate given the higher sport fish limits.

In January 2004, the Alaska Board of Fisheries amended and adopted Proposal 104, liberalizing Aniak River sport fish bag and possession limits and aligning them with the Holitna River drainage, as follows: Arctic char/Dolly Varden (in flowing waters) daily bag limit, three; Lake Trout, four; Rainbow trout, catch and release only; Arctic grayling, two; Sheefish, two; Northern pike, five, one over 30 inches; Burbot, 15. A similar proposal (Proposal 137) to eliminate the bag limit and other restrictions associated with hook and line attached to a rod or pole subsistence fishery failed. The bag limit for the fishing under the subsistence regulations was not increased to match the increased bag limit under the sport fishing regulations. Currently, the hook and line attached to a rod or pole bag limit under the subsistence regulations for the Aniak River drainage upstream of Doestock Creek between June 1 through August 31, is more restrictive than the sport fish harvest limits.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE? The subsistence bag and possession limits will remain more restrictive than the sport fishing limits.

WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED? NA

WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT? Subsistence fishers.

WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER? No one.

OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED? None.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ACR-029)
