



RC 005

February 18, 2016

Boards Support Section
Alaska Department of Fish & Game
ATTN: Mr. Glenn Haight, Executive Director II
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5526

Dear Mr. Haight:

Enclosed are Ahtna, Inc.'s comments on the fisheries proposals for 2016 Alaska Board of Fisheries Statewide meeting.

Sincerely,

Stevia Stuckman
for Nicholas Jackson
Nicholas Jackson
Chair

Alaska Board of Fisheries 2016 Statewide Proposals

Proposal 202 – 5 AAC 01.010. Methods, means, and general provisions; 5 AAC 39.105. Types of legal gear; 5 AAC 75.020. Sport fishing gear; 5 AAC 75.022. Freshwater sport fishing, and 5 AAC 77.010. Methods, means, and general restrictions. By Luke Nelson. Prohibit the use of felt bottom boots in all waters, while fishing, as follows:

To prevent the spread of diseases and foreign viruses, felt bottom boots are not permitted on Alaska streams or tidewater, with felt soles illegal.

Comments:

We oppose Proposal 202 to prevent the spread of diseases and foreign viruses, felt bottom boots are not permitted on Alaska streams or tidewater, with felt soles illegal. All water bodies will be included in this statewide proposal. Diseases and foreign viruses can be spread in other ways, such as equipment or clothing, and humans etc.

Proposal 204 – 5 AAC 75.995. Definitions. By Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Modify the definition of an artificial fly to include the use of a bare single hook as follows:

5 AAC 75.995(a)(1) is amended to read:

(1) "artificial fly means that it is constructed by common methods known as fly tying, including a dry fly, wet fly, and nymph, or a bare single hook, and that is free of bait as defined in (36) of this section; materials and chemicals designed and produced primarily to cause flies to float or sink may be used on artificial flies.

Comments:

We support Proposal 204 to add a bare single hook to what artificial fly means in the regulation so that the public will have a clear understanding what it means. A bare single hook that is free of bait as defined in 5 AAC 75.995(36) is already allowed in regulation. This will help to clarify this regulation.

Proposal 205 – AAC 75.020. Sport fishing gear. By Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Clarify that a bead not attached to a hook is an attractor, and not a lure of fly, as follows:

5 AAC 75.020(b) is amended to read:

(b) An attractor (bead) when used with a fly, lure, or bare hook, must be either fixed within two inches of the bare hook, fly or lure, or be free sliding on the line or leader. For the purposes of this subsection, a bead not attached to the hook is an attractor and may be used in waters where gear is limited to artificial lures or artificial flies.[NOT A FLY].

Comments:

We support Proposal 205 to add that a bead that is not attached to a hook is an attractor and may be used in waters where gear is limited to artificial lures or artificial flies. This will clarify the regulation that using a bead that is not attached to a hook is an attractor, which is allowed in regulation. Public will have a better understanding and clarified regulation.