

(Proposal 14 will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting).

PROPOSAL 14 - 5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area., 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area., 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area., 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area., and 5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Allow snagging for sockeye salmon in all Cook Inlet freshwater lakes, as follows:

Allow sockeye salmon not hooked in the mouth to be retained in Fresh water Lakes in the Cook Inlet Drainage.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? It is almost impossible to catch sockeye salmon in the mouth unless there is some current, Sockeye salmon do not bite unless in late spawning stage,

PROPOSED BY: Andy Housh (EF-F16-135)

(Proposal 34 will be heard and public testimony will be taken at both the LCI and UCI meetings and deliberated at the UCI meeting).

PROPOSAL 34 - 5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area., 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish., 5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area., 5 AAC 60.120.

General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area., 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area., and 5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet fresh and salt water for all species except king salmon, as follows:

Allow party fishing in Cook Inlet salt & fresh water for all species except King Salmon.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? 100% of private anglers & 95% of guided anglers party fish for most species, current rules make criminals out of all them, Tis rule is also non-enforcable for private anglers, & only enforceable on guided anglers if there iran undercover cop nearby or onboard the vessel. When fishing for abundant species with high bag limits such as black rockfish, sockeyes, pinks & others it is almost impossible to keep track of which individual anglers caught what & how many, example is 5 anglers fishing for pinks with limit of 6, it is easy to count to 30, but is very easy to lose track of how many each individual angler has retained.

PROPOSED BY: Andy Housh (EF-F16-137)

PROPOSAL 144 - 5 AAC 56.XXX. Sport fishing by proxy., 5 AAC 57.XXX. Sport fishing by proxy., 5 AAC 58.XXX. Sport fishing by proxy., 5 AAC 59.XXX. Sport fishing by proxy., 5 AAC 60.XXX. Sport fishing by proxy., and 5 AAC 61.XXX. Sport fishing by proxy. Require that when proxy fishing in Upper Cook Inlet, once a bag limit is taken the next legal bag limit must be retained, as follows:

Notwithstanding 75.011 (Sport Fishing by Proxy) In Upper Cook Inlet, once a bag limit is taken either on behalf of a person under AAC75.011 or under a resident fishing license, the next legal bag limit must be retained.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Proxy Fishing abuse. In cases where regulation requires once a bag limit is taken fishermen must stop fishing, fishermen may continue catch and release fishing under the guise of proxy fishing. This change would end this abuse and allow the benefit of proxy fishing to continue.

PROPOSED BY: Anchorage Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F16-043)

PROPOSAL 145 - 5 AAC 57.121. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Lower Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 57.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 57.123. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 59.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage

Bowl Drainages Area., 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area., 5 AAC 61.112. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 1 of the Susitna River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 61.118. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 61.120. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 5 of the Susitna River Drainage Area., and 5 AAC 61.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 6 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow only barbless hooks in Upper Cook Inlet flowing waters closed to salmon fishing, as follows:

In Upper Cook Inlet flowing waters closed to salmon fishing, only barbless hooks or hooks with the barb completely pinched may be used year round.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Damage to Rainbow Trout in Catch and Release Fisheries

Rainbow trout and dolly varden in Upper Cook Inlet typically show mouth damage from poor fish handling practices. This degrades the fishery because a majority of fish from are extremely ugly, in a fishery for wild trout it is very important for many anglers seeking a near wilderness experience to catch undamaged fish. Gill lice are very common throughout the stock of rainbow trout on throughout southcentral Alaska. Gill lice have been shown to lower a trout's fitness, it has also been shown that rainbow trout can only be infected by lice while under stress. The intense and extremely productive fishery during salmon spawning causes stress to nearly every fish. Barbless hooks have been shown to greatly reduce handling time and greatly reduce mouth/lip damage to released fish while having minimal to a positive effect on landing rates.

Other solutions include banning barbless hooks for all waters however this would not be acceptable to bait fishermen in consumptive fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick McCormick (EF-F16-127)

PROPOSAL 146 - 5 AAC 56.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area., 5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area., 5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish., 5 AAC 59.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Anchorage Bowl Drainages Area., 5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area., 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area., and 5 AAC 62.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual,

and size limits, and methods and means for the West Cook Inlet Area. Require the use of circle hooks when fishing for sockeye salmon, as follows:

The Board of Fisheries should implement the circle hook as the legal hook for sockeye fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The sockeye sports fishery has become very popular. The method of catching sockeye is with a single hook coho fly stripped through the water to try to legally hook the sockeye in the mouth. The hook commonly snags the salmon in the tail, dorsal fin or other parts of the body and has to be released. This happens frequently and a lot of sockeye die from the stress of catch and release. The hooks are also good at hooking people. There is a better way, with circle hooks. Circle hooks are much less likely to snag a salmon other than in the mouth. This would dramatically reduce catch and release mortality. Circle hooks are also much safer and less likely to snag a person's body. The halibut fishery was reluctant to use circle hooks but now they are the norm because of their efficiency.

PROPOSED BY: Central Peninsula Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F16-170)
