

PROPOSAL 27

5 AAC 55.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area.

Remove a closed water provision for Clear Creek, as follows:

(1)(A) in all freshwater drainages crossed by the Copper River Highway from and including Eyak River to the Million Dollar Bridge, including Clear Creek at mile 42 [DOWNSTREAM OF THE CARBON MOUNTAIN ROAD BRIDGE], the bag and possession limit is three fish; a coho salmon removed from the water shall be retained and becomes part of the bag limit of the person originally hooking it; a person may not remove a coho salmon from the water before releasing the fish;

...

(8)(A) [CLEAR CREEK UPSTREAM OF THE CARBON MOUNTAIN ROAD BRIDGE LOCATED AT MILE 42 OF THE COPPER RIVER HIGHWAY];

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Removal of the restriction prohibiting salmon fishing year-round upstream of the Carbon Mountain Road Bridge on Clear Creek. I believe the restriction was put in place as a proactive measure to protect a portion of Clear Creek from projected increased use resulting from construction of the Carbon Mountain Road. The Carbon Mountain Road was not built and there are no current plans for its construction. Additionally, use of and access to Clear Creek has been substantially reduced due to the washout, and no plans for its repair, of the Copper River Highway at Bridge 339. In years past Clear Creek was clear upstream and downstream of the location of the Carbon Mountain Road Bridge. Clear Creek is now heavily silt laden and unfishable from about the 1st of June through early part of October from a point 1/2 mile upstream of the Carbon Mountain Road Bridge down the rest of its length. This is due to a tributary of the Copper River flowing into Clear Creek a half mile upstream of the Carbon Mountain Road Bridge.

PROPOSED BY: Lucas Borer

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