

PROPOSAL 55

5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area.

Limit the days guides or clients can fish on a section of the Naknek River, as follows:

5 AAC 67.022(d)(4)

My proposed solution to this problem us as follows:

No guiding on Sundays or Thursdays. This will mean no clients without guides, no dropping clients off unguided and no lodge guides on the river. The area affected by this would be the area at Lake Camp from the marker at Trefons Cabin to the marker at Rapids Camp.

I believe that it is time to implement such a regulation on the Naknek because it has become obscenely abused and overused by lodges and guides and time should be allotted for folks and families that live here and deserve their time on a river that used to be a place to relax and unwind.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The issue I would like the board to address concerns the extreme overabundance of guides and clients fishing on the Naknek River for rainbow trout.

In the past 20 plus years of living in King Salmon fishing the Naknek river for rainbow trout, Lately I have witnessed the extreme overabundance of guides and clients trout fishing on the Naknek River. Gone are the days of going "upriver" after work or on the weekend to fish and relax. This river is mobbed by guides and their clients starting on the opener June 8th, going well onto October and sometimes November. Gone also is the etiquette on this river. When you are lucky enough to find a spot to fish upriver it usually comes with a consequence being that you will be fishing in a non stop wake zone because of all of the boats going up and down the river - boats carrying 4 to 6 fisherman apiece.

The other consequence that I have witnessed and personally experienced multiple times last fall is the complete and utter lack of etiquette from multiple guides from the multiple lodges that are fishing clients on the river. From having boats float right through the water I am fishing , to having guides drop clients off less than 20 yards below me while fishing - the etiquette has totally disappeared on the river. If you so desire to leave at the earliest hours of the morning to secure a spot - don't bother. You will only find yourself upriver going to each spot only to find a guide waiting there for the lodge to bring clients upriver to the spots that their guides are "holding."

It is very sad what has happened to this trout fishery over the last few years. I am so thankful that I got to enjoy this fishery long ago when there was only a small handful of locals that fished during the fall time and even during the summer when you could go up to the rapids after work and relax. I do not oppose change but I do oppose the abuse of such a beautiful resource that many locals cannot even enjoy anymore.

PROPOSED BY: Jason Lazore

(EF-F18-013)
