

**PROPOSAL 57**

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

Prohibit the use of certain sport fishing tackle in a section of the Naknek River drainage, as follows:

5 AAC 67.022 (d) (XXX).

Naknek River Drainage:

Upstream from ADF&G markers located ½ mile above Rapids Camp to ADF&G markers at Trefon’s cabin at the outlet of Naknek Lake:

**Closed to the use of all salmon egg imitation patterns, including all hard and soft beads, glo bugs, spin and glows and any other stand alone egg imitation, unless the egg imitation is a fixed part of a fly or lure longer than 1 inch in length (for example egg sucking leeches).**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** During the past 5-10 years we have witnessed our rainbow population being directly impacted by the use of beads. We are beginning to see an alarming trend of missing age classes of our smaller rainbows. The bead technique while being very effective, is having an extremely harmful impact on the health of the rainbows being released. A popular practice is to peg the bead a couple of inches up the line above the bait hook. The trout see this drifting by and attempt to swallow the bead but inadvertently miss and get the trailing bait hook in the eye, under the chin, etc. We are now seeing so many dead and injured trout that is directly impacting the behavior of our eagle population in the Rapids Camp area on the Naknek River.

What would happen if nothing is changed? The health and future of our rainbow population would continue to be jeopardized, not allowing future generations of anglers the opportunity to catch and release beautiful, healthy and pristine rainbows that this watershed has always been known for.

**PROPOSED BY:** Naknek/Kvichak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F18-080)

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