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Gear/Methods and Means (6 proposals)

PROPOSAL 87

5 AAC 39.105. Types of legal gear.

Define eel stick, as follows *(To be heard at the Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim meeting and deliberated during the Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues meeting):*

5 AAC 39.105(d) is amended to read:

...

(30) a cast net is a circular net with a mesh size of no more than one and one-half inches and weights attached to the perimeter which, when thrown, surrounds the fish and closes at the bottom when retrieved;[.]

(31) an eel stick consists of a single straight or bent pole, equipped with notches or projecting tines, used through the ice to take lamprey.

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This would add eel sticks as a legal gear for commercial and subsistence fishing. An additional department proposal was submitted to add this as a legal gear type for subsistence fishing. The commercial fishery for Arctic lamprey (eels) operates under a commissioner's permit that allows commercial permit holders to use dip nets and eel sticks; however the eel stick is not included in regulations. Statewide provisions (5 AAC 01.010 (1)) for subsistence gear would refer to and include this addition. Eel sticks are traditionally used in Districts 2, 3 and 4 for harvesting Arctic lamprey for commercial and subsistence purposes through the ice. Eel sticks are described in Subsistence Division Technical Paper No. 289 (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/techpap/tp289.pdf>)

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-059)

PROPOSAL 153

5 AAC 39.145. Escape mechanism for shellfish and bottomfish pots.

Define escape mechanisms for collapsible 'slinky' groundfish pots, as follows:

AWT and ADF&G have been working on wording that will be easily understood and enforceable. A drafted RC will be submitted at the BOF meeting detailing how an escape mechanism is to be rigged on these newer collapsible style pots.

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? With the recent addition of collapsible groundfish pots "slinky pots" in the sablefish fisheries the current regulations for escape mechanism create confusion for users and enforcement on how to properly rig this style of pots. With there being no true bottom, it is unknown where the opening must be placed as the language is currently written, and if the pot lays to rest with the opening on the ocean floor, it will not properly act as an escape mechanism.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Wildlife Troopers

(HQ-F22-073)

PROPOSAL 82

5 AAC 39.250. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Modify the dates sinking of gillnets is allowed in the Yukon Area from October 1 to April 30, as follows (*To be heard at the Arctic / Yukon / Kuskokwim meeting and deliberated during the Statewide Finfish and Supplemental Issues meeting*):

5 AAC 39.250(d) is amended to read:

...

(d) The float line and floats of gillnets must be floating on the surface of the water while the net is fishing, unless natural conditions cause the net to temporarily sink. The restriction of this subsection does not apply in the Arctic-Kotzebue Area (5 AAC 03.100), the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area (5 AAC 04.100), the Yukon Area (5 AAC 05.100) **from October 1 to April 30**, the Kuskokwim Area (5 AAC 07.100), and the Kodiak Area (5 AAC 18.100).

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This proposal would modify the dates when gillnets are allowed to be fished without the float line on the surface of the water in the Yukon Area. During salmon seasons, from May 1 to September 30, the float line and floats must be floating on the surface. Submerged gillnets are less visible and may be difficult to observe if fishing illegally during closed periods. Allowing a gillnet to be in a fishing condition with floats not visible on the surface of the water is a navigation hazard.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F22-062)

PROPOSAL 154

5 AAC 39.155. Seine drums unlawful.

Allow the use of purse seine drums as follows:

Delete this section

[5 AAC 39.155. Seine drums unlawful

It shall be unlawful to have mounted aboard any seine vessel a seine drum or reel around which a seine can be coiled or rolled.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

Existing Law

Sec. 16.10.120. Use of drum or reel in operation of purse seine.

A person may not use, employ, or operate a drum or reel around which a purse seine is coiled, rolled, or looped for purposes of taking or removing fish from a body of water located on or over land or tideland owned by the state or over which the state has jurisdiction. This section does not prevent the use of power blocks or the use of a reel mounted on a seine skiff to haul in or let out the separate purse seine lead which is temporarily connected to the purse seine proper, as these terms are generally employed or used in the fishing industry. DELETE THE UNDERLINED PRAISE

5 AAC 39.155. Seine drums unlawful

It shall be unlawful to have mounted aboard any seine vessel a seine drum or reel around which a seine can be coiled or rolled.

History

The law banning seine drums dates back to the late 1950's when most of the fishing fleet was in the process of converting from hand pull seines to the new modern Power block systems, also full pursing was the only method used. The average time to haul back the net was 30-60 minutes and a typical day for the average seiner was 10-12 sets. In 1959 a group of seiners also converted their boats to using seine drums, this dramatically changed the efficiency of the process and could feasibly double the number of sets compared to the power block equipped boats. The Law was introduced in 1959 to level the playing field

Why would I like this regulation changed?

The fishery has evolved continuously over the years since 1959 and technology has made the law banning drums antiquated. In today's seine fleet the power block and drum have the same level of efficiency, power block equipped boat can make the same sets per day and in some instances even more than a boat equipped with a drum.

The main reason I would like to change this regulation is the safety aspect. Power blocks can weigh up to 1000 lbs. and having the hanging over a crew piling gear is an incredibly risk of fish, rings, heavy leads falling on individuals below causing injury. As a business owners any injury in not acceptable and it's our job to provide the safest work place possible and I greatly believe that using a drum would lessen the risk for overhead injuries.

Aging and more seasoned crew members are being replaced with young more competitive high speed paced.

PROPOSED BY: Jason Burke (EF-F22-029)

PROPOSAL 155

5 AAC 75.028. Use of underwater spear and speargun

Allow a person using a spear or speargun to take fish while swimming at the water's surface, as follows:

5 AAC 75.028 is amended to read:

Subject to applicable seasons and bag and possession limits, a person who is completely submerged **or swimming on the surface** may use a spear or speargun in salt water to take fish if the spear or speargun is not tipped with an explosive charge.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations stipulate that anglers must be completely submerged while taking fish with a spear or speargun which effectively prevents spearfishing while snorkeling in shallow bays or other areas where some fish species tend to congregate. Adoption of this proposal would allow anglers to use spears or spearguns more effectively while using snorkeling gear, especially in shallow water, by permitting them to be either swimming on the surface or being completely submerged. Since spearfishing anglers must adhere to local bag and possession limits, seasons and closed waters, those wishing to spearfish do not present a conservation concern for any species already targeted by anglers with rod and reel. This proposed regulation provides clarification to the existing regulation while still being enforceable and not creating a conservation concern.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-072)

PROPOSAL 156

5 AAC 77.010. Methods, means, and general restrictions

Prohibit the use of felt soled wading footwear while personal use fishing in freshwater, as follows:

5 AAC 77.010 is amended to read:

(n) The use of footgear with absorbent felt or other fiber material on the soles is prohibited while personal use fishing in freshwater.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Felt soled wading footgear have been identified as a primary vector for transferring invasive species such as whirling disease, didymo (rock snot), New Zealand mud snails, and zebra and quagga mussels to freshwater systems.

The board prohibited the use of felt soled footgear when sport fishing in 2010. Extending the precaution to freshwater personal use fisheries would be consistent with previous action and prevent Alaskans from unknowingly spreading these species retained in moist felt soles of wading footgear.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-069)

Registration (2 proposals)

PROPOSAL 157

5 AAC 39.115. Designation of salmon net registration area.

Allow a person holding CFEC permits for multiple salmon net areas to commercial fish for salmon in more than one net area per year, as follows:

I would like the board to consider allowing permit holders of different salmon net gear cards to be allowed to fish them on different boats of different gear groups (i.e. Southeast seine, Bristol Bay gillnet) in the same calendar year, but MUST fish the net gear permits on/off separate registered fishing vessel meaning two different fishing vessels and document you intend to fish both salmon net gear cards with CFEC and which designated vessel you plan to fish different gear permits on/off of.

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? 5 AAC 39.115. Designation of salmon net registration area. A person who holds salmon net gear permits for more than one registration area listed in 5 AAC. 39.120(d) shall designate upon a form provided by the CFEC the single area in which he desires to salmon net fish in that year. The area so designated must be an area for which the person holds a valid salmon net permit. What I would like the board to address is allowing a person with valid salmon net cards of different designated areas to fish in a calendar year off different fishing platforms. I.E Bristol Bay drift gear permit card on a 32 foot vessel and a Southeast Salmon gear permit card on a completely separate fishing platform. Under 5 AAC 38 Requires a salmon net fishing vessel to register in the area it intends to fish and under 5 AAC 05.370 No vessel may display more than one vessel license area tab.

In Southeast Alaska you are able to own and operate different salmon gear cards off the same fishing platform in the same calendar year. I.E. Troll, Gillnet, and Seine off the same fishing vessel in the salmon calendar year owned by the same permit holders.

PROPOSED BY: Matthew Kinney (EF-F21-014)

PROPOSAL 158

5 AAC 39.115. Designation of salmon net registration area.

Allow a person holding CFEC permits for multiple salmon net areas to commercial fish for salmon in more than one net area per year, as follows:

This regulation would state, as of the 2022 salmon season and moving forward Bristol Bay permit holders both set and drift gill net will be allowed to own and use another salmon permit anywhere in the state of Alaska. Giving them opportunity to harvest all summer. Another vessel must be used to harvest the fish as it has always been.

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? With Bristol bay being such a condensed fishery it would be nice as a young fisherman to be able to own a seine permit along with my Bristol Bay permit so I can fish all summer. Currently the way it's set up my wife and I own Bristol bay permits and fish two Bristol bay boats. Yet we can't own a kodiak seine permit and go fish around our home waters for august and September. It would allow us to create longer employment for our crews as well as help us maximize the summer salmon runs. There are plenty

of permits not being fished in Kodiak every summer and boats that sit idle. It would allow us to put more money into the Alaskan economy. We'd be fishing a completely separate vessel than our bay boats. We are a small family owned business, this wouldn't be monopolizing anything. It would simply allow us to take advantage of the whole summer.

Bristol Bay fisherman should be allowed to fish other salmon fisheries around the state since our fishery is sometimes as condensed as 3-4 weeks a season. Meanwhile southeast and Kodiak guys get 3-4 months of fishing. I don't understand why you can't continue to set net or seine another fishery after the bay with different equipment. Young eager fishermen are willing to put the work in yet the state won't allow us to own another salmon permit and fish it the same season. Many of these other salmon fisheries around the state are losing many participants every year with graying of the fleet. There is a group of hard working fishermen who'd like to be able to fish another fishery after Bristol Bay is over.

PROPOSED BY: Hayden Linscheid (EF-F21-028)

Closed Areas (1 proposal)

PROPOSAL 159

5 AAC 39.XXX. New Section.

Close commercial fishing for a given species within one-fourth of a mile of any area closed to sport fishing for that species, as follows:

In areas where sport or other personal use fishing is closed it shall be unlawful to commercially harvest or target the stock of that species within 1/4 mile of the area closed to sport fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The state doesn't follow their own regulations in regards to mixed fisheries. There are locations where streams are closed to salmon fishing but commercial fishing openers will open the same streams to commercial fishing. One example is Port Valdez where all streams with the exception of Robe River are closed but port cleanup commercial openers open all anadromous streams to commercial harvest.

PROPOSED BY: Abe Horschel (EF-F21-021)

Terminal Harvest Areas (1 proposal)

PROPOSAL 160

5 AAC 39.XXX. New Section.

Require surrender of proceeds gained from sale of wild king salmon caught in hatchery terminal harvest areas, as follows:

Require any opener intended to harvest hatchery salmon to immediately record and then surrender the sale price of wild feeder king salmon to the state

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? With increase in low price high volume hatchery philosophy such as pink salmon hatcheries commercial fishermen are more prevalent and fishing is open longer to target these hatchery fish. In the process feeder kings are being caught which impact other areas of the state.

PROPOSED BY: Abe Horschel

(EF-F21-024)

Policy (1 proposal)

PROPOSAL 161

5 AAC 28.XXX. New section.

Create and establish Alaska Board of Fisheries policy regarding the management of groundfish fishery resources in waters of Alaska, as follows:

GOAL AND BENEFITS

It is the goal of the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to manage groundfish stocks in a manner that will protect, maintain, improve, and extend these resources for the greatest overall benefit.

Management of these fisheries for the purpose of achieving this goal will result in a variety of benefits which include but are not limited to:

Maintaining healthy stocks of groundfish to ensure their continued reproductive viability and the maintenance of their role in the ecosystem;

Providing a sustained and reliable supply of high-quality product to consumers and substantial and stable employment in all sectors of the economy relating to these fisheries; and

Providing opportunities for sport, subsistence, and personal use fisheries.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries also recognizes the benefits of managing for the highest socio-economic benefit consistent with the below objectives.

OBJECTIVES

To achieve the management goal and provide the benefits available from these resources, it is necessary to set objectives which will protect stocks and provide for optimum utilization of these resources. With regards to the management of groundfish fishery resources in State of Alaska waters, the Alaska Board of Fisheries has the following objectives:

Minimize adverse interactions with other stocks and fisheries.

Protect habitat from unsustainable fishing practices.

Utilize management measures that ensure adherence to annual and seasonal catch limits.

Harvest the resource to optimize quality and value of product.

Harvest the resource with consideration of ecosystem interactions.

Coordinate with federal management agencies responsible for groundfish fishery management.

Manage fisheries based upon the best available information.

Manage fisheries consistent with conservation and sustained yield of healthy groundfish resources.

Avoid sport, subsistence, and personal use conflicts.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? At its March 23, 2013 meeting, the board repealed 5 AAC 28.089. GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR GROUND FISH FISHERY REGULATIONS, citing an interest in removing duplicative and unnecessary regulatory wording pertaining to the State's management of its groundfish fisheries. However, we believe that the board did not fully recognize the value that this regulation had in documenting sound and precautionary conservation management practices for the public's consideration.

The Board has a history of adopting policies in other fisheries which are intended to give guidance to future Boards, department staff, and the public (i.e., policies for the management of sustainable salmon stocks, King and Tanner crab, mixed stock fisheries, and statewide escapement goals). The Board and public will benefit from an overall groundfish policy that provides guidance in decision-making during consideration of future proposals. Formalizing this policy for groundfish is consistent with the State's approach in managing the health and sustainability of other Alaska's fisheries and will help document Alaska's record as a leader of fisheries conservation and responsible management.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation (EF-F22-090)

Sport/Personal Use/Subsistence Guiding (4 proposals)

PROPOSAL 162

5 AAC 75.077. Sport fishing guide vessel registration requirements.

Allow the Kenai River Special Management Area -DNR decal to serve as proof of ADF&G sport fishing guide vessel registration, as follows:

5 AAC 75.077 is amended to read:

(a) Before being used to provide sport fishing guide services, a vessel must be registered annually with the department. A business owner, or the owner's authorized agent, shall register each individual vessel operated by the business to provide sport fishing guide services by completing a form provided by the department. At the time of registration, the business owner, or the owner's authorized agent, must provide the current division of motor vehicles boat registration number, issued under 2 AAC 70, or the current United States Coast Guard vessel documentation number of each vessel being registered.

(b) A person may not engage in sport fishing guide services from a powered or unpowered vessel unless the vessel is registered under (a) of this section and displays a sport fishing guide vessel decal with a current annual sticker issued by the department as follows:

(1) upon initial registration of a vessel, two sport fishing guide vessel decals will be issued by the department for that vessel; one decal must be securely affixed on each side of the vessel and must be displayed in plain view at all times the vessel is used to provide sport fishing guide services, **except that a vessel providing sport fishing guide services in the Kenai River Special Management Area may display the current year Department of Natural Resources Kenai River guide decal as proof of ADF&G registration;**

(2) for the years following the year of initial registration of a vessel, two current year renewal stickers will be issued by the department for that vessel; one current year renewal sticker must be securely affixed on each decal over the previous year renewal sticker and must be displayed in plain view at all times the vessel is used to provide sport fishing guide services, **except as provided in (b)(1) for vessels providing sport fishing guides services in the Kenai River Special Management Area.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Alaska statute and statewide sport fishing regulations require a sticker be displayed on a vessel providing sport fishing services. The statute (AS 16.05.395 Sport fishing vessel registration) specifically requires “proof of registration” with ADF&G be “clearly visible on the vessel while the vessel is used to provide sport fishing services. The regulation (5 AAC 75.077 Sport fishing guide vessel registration requirements) requires that guides display “a sport fishing guide vessel decal with a current annual sticker issued by the department...”

The annual Department of Natural Resources (DNR) current year renewal sticker has been used in lieu of the department’s annual renewal sticker for vessels operating in the Kenai River Special Management Area (KRSMA) because DNR regulations required guides operating in the KRSMA be in compliance with ADF&G regulations prior to receiving the KRSMA sticker. This ensured that guides and their vessels were annually registered with ADF&G and therefore the DNR current year renewal sticker was proof of current ADF&G registration.

However, the DNR regulation currently references a statute that is repealed and 5 AAC 75.077 requires the current annual sticker “issued by the department”. DNR and ADF&G staff are coordinating a response to address the redundancy of requiring two vessel stickers that provide proof of registration. ADF&G by submitting this proposal and, if it passes, DNR will replace the reference to the repealed statute with 5 AAC 75.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-071)

PROPOSAL 163

5 AAC 77.XXX. New section.

Prohibit guiding in personal use finfish fisheries, as follows:

Alternative one (preferred): Guiding of persons engaging in personal use fisheries shall not be allowed. **What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Commercialization of personal use fisheries.

Personal use fisheries were implemented as a stop gap measure to actively manage sockeye salmon runs after the Exxon Valdez oil spill allowing Alaskan residents to harvest excess fish to maintain optimum escapement goals. Currently the industry of guiding this non commercial fishery is growing rapidly. Personal use fishermen do not pay for management of fisheries, and do not pay for enhancement of those fisheries targeting hatchery salmon (for example, Gulkana River sockeye, Kachemak Bay Coho/Sockeye, Fish Creek Sockeye) allowing persons to commercialize these resources paid for almost exclusively by commercial fishermen (some is paid for through sportfish funded programs) is entirely unfair to the commercial sector and sportfishing license holders.

Personal use fisheries have been entirely to give residents an opportunity to participate in subsistence style fisheries, feeding their families despite living in a non subsistence zone, they are not intended to be commercialized. Imagine a company in Glennallen charging money to operate a fishwheel for subsistence fishing.

Some alternatives:

Alternative two: Impose a fish tax on commercial operators who engage in enhanced PU fisheries based on the market value of those fish.

Alternative three: Impose a flat fee on commercial operators who engage in PU fisheries.

Alternative four (least preferred): Impose a fee on all PU fishery permit holders to pay for management and enhancement of these fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick McCormick (EF-F21-017)

PROPOSAL 164

5 AAC 77.XXX. New Section.

Establish registration and reporting requirements for personal use guides and transporters, as follows:

-Personal use guides and transporters shall be registered similarly to sport fishing guides following the same requirements established in 5 AAC 75

- Personal use guides and transporters shall report to the department all retained fin fish and shellfish, estimated fishing effort, and any other information deemed helpful to the department.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Establish regulations for commercial guide operations in personal use fisheries. Currently there are no requirements for

guides engaging in commercial operations. This makes it impossible for the department to collect data to better regulate this budding industry and is prudent for management of fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick McCormick (EF-F21-031)

PROPOSAL 165

5 AAC 01.XXX. New section.

Prohibit compensation for guide services in subsistence fisheries, as follows:

No person or persons shall pay more than the pro rata share in exchange for guide services while engaged in subsistence fisheries.

For the purpose of this section "guide services" include providing direct instruction in fishing techniques and locations, or operating watercraft while subsistence fishing is taking place from that watercraft. "Guide services" do not include transportation to and from the fishing site, customary and traditional barter, fish processing services, gear rentals, or trips between family members of second degree kindred.

"Pro rata" means a proportional share of direct trip costs. Direct trip costs include fuel, ice, food, fish processing or other costs incurred from consumable goods or services, but do not include cost of durable goods such as boats, fishing equipment, or regular maintenance costs of equipment.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Subsistence fishing provides the guide industry a loophole to commercially exploit fish and game resources when other commercial opportunities are closed for conservations reasons. Subsistence fishing is defined to be a non commercial enterprise and should not be used to enrich individuals who choose not to share in the conservation burden, they provide an outsized catch power to resident fishermen who nearly entirely do not need subsistence fish, would not qualify as federal subsistence users, and have the means to participate sport, personal use, commercial or other subsistence fisheries in the state of Alaska.

By allowing commercial guiding in subsistence fisheries the board of fish is allocating fish generally away from local traditional users of the resource towards urban users who have limited knowledge, equipment and means who are not traditional users of the resource.

This proposal is not intended to limit the passing down of traditional knowledge, traditional barter, or sharing of equipment. This proposal is also not intended to affect commercial services in engaging with aiding subsistence fishermen indirectly such as transporting them to subsistence locations, furnishing gear, processing fish etc.

This proposal is simply intended to codify that subsistence fishing shall not support commercial enterprises, as intended by state law.

PROPOSED BY: Patrick McCormick (EF-F21-030)

Personal Use/Subsistence Limits and Reporting (2 proposals)

PROPOSAL 166

5 AAC 77.015. Personal use fishing permits and reports and display of personal use fish.

Establish a statewide bag limit for personal use finfish fisheries, as follows:

Statewide bag limit for all Personal Use dip net fisheries. A bag limit is defined as a maximum number of salmon of any one salmon species a permit may take. A permit may not exceed the statewide bag limit of salmon between all the personal use dip net fisheries.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently there is no state wide bag limit for personal use dip net fisheries in the state. As in that every household can collect a permit for multiple personal use fisheries and compound their catch for the year. Referencing hunting regulation 5 AAC. 92.130 (a) a person may not exceed the total of the statewide take of that species in the unit or portion of a unit. Using this hunting regulation as an example one cannot harvest all his or her tags of deer in Southeast Alaska and then hunt Kodiak with a full new set of tags. The tags are a total bag limit for the year. This is the issue I would like to address for the statewide PU dip net fisheries, just like a person must choose where they want to hunt for the year a household should choose where to fish and fill their bag limits. This does not limit the household from fishing multiple personal use dipnet fisheries, but just ensures their catch in one dipnet fishery would subtract from the total allowed in the other.

PROPOSED BY: Darin Gilman

(EF-F21-025)

PROPOSAL 167

5 AAC 01.015. Subsistence fishing permits and reports, and 5 ACC 77.015. Personal use fishing permits and reports and display of personal use fish.

Require inseason reporting of subsistence and personal use salmon harvest within 5 days of harvest, as follows:

(6) subsistence fishing reports must be completed on forms provided by the department and submitted to the department office from which the permit was issued [at a time specified by the department] within 5 days of harvest for each particular area and fishery;

...

(6) personal us fishing reports must be completed on forms provided by the department and submitted to the department office from which the permit was issued [at a time specified by the department] within 5 days of harvest for each particular area and fishery;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Require In-Season reporting of Subsistence and Personal Use Salmon within 5 days of harvest using an online app or phone call to the Department.

Currently, participants in both fisheries are not required to report their harvest until well after the close of the season. Both Fisheries take a substantial number of salmon, especially in low

[AMERICAN BULL FROG
Pacific chorus frog
Red-legged frog

Crustaceans

[SIGNAL CRAYFISH
Red swamp crayfish
Rusty crayfish
European green crab

Virile crayfish/Northern crayfish

Fish

[ASIAN CARP
YELLOW PERCH
Cyprinid fishes

American shad

Eastern Mosquitofish

Round goby

Mollusks

New Zealand mudsnail
Dreissenid mussels
Quagga mussel
Zebra mussel
Conrad's or Dark false mussel

Asian clam

(2) Class B banned invasive species

Amphibians

American bull frog

Crustaceans

Signal crayfish

Fish

Yellow perch

Muskellunge

Walleye

Bluegill

Largemouth bass

Smallmouth bass

Black crappie

White crappie

LITHOBATES CATESBEIANUS]
Pseudacris regilla or *Hyla regilla*
Rana aurora

PACIFASTACUS LENIUSCULUS]

Procambarus clarkii
Orconectes rusticus
Carcinus maenas
Faxonius virilis

HYPOPHTHALMICHTHYS GENUS
PERCA FLAVESCENS]

**Cyprinidae Family (includes invasive
carps, redbreast shiners, golden shiners, and
fathead minnows)**

Alosa sapidissima
Gambusia holbrooki
Apollonia melanostromus

Potamopyrgus antipodarum
Dreissenidae Family
Dreissena bugensis
Dreissena polymorpha
Mytilopsis leucophaeta
Corbicula fluminea

Lithobates catesbeianus

Pacifastacus leniusculus

Perca flavescens

Esox masquinongy

Sander vitreus

Lepomis macrochirus

Micropterus salmoides

Micropterus dolomieu

Pomoxis nigromaculatus

Pomoxis annularis

Ictalurid fishes
Brook trout
Brown trout
White Perch
Pumpkinseed

Ictaluridae Family (catfish)
Salvelinus fontinalis
Salmo trutta
Morone americana
Lepomis gibbosus

(d) **A person may not possess** [“BANNED INVASIVE SPECIES” INCLUDES ANY PART OF AN ORGANISM, INCLUDING REPRODUCTIVE OR GENETIC MATERIAL, AT ANY STAGE OF ITS LIFE CYCLE] **any part of a Class A banned invasive species, including reproductive or genetic material, at any stage of its life cycle except as follows:**

(1) when transporting a specimen to any department office or another location as directed by the department in a sealed container for the purpose of containing, identifying, or reporting the presence of the species, or

(2) under the provisions of a Aquatic Resource Permit as defined in 5 AAC 41.005.

(e) A person may not possess any live Class B banned invasive species at any stage of its life cycle.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In 2021, regulations specific to banned invasive species were adopted through the Alaska Board of Fisheries delegation of authority under AS 16.05.270 through board finding 2015-275-FB. The language in the adopted regulations in the banned invasive species list was specific to that provided for the 2015 finding. Since 2015, several nonnative species, not previously included in the banned invasive species list, have been discovered in Alaska waters, including largemouth bass (2018), fathead minnows (2018) and muskellunge (2017). In addition, other fish, mollusk, and crustacean species that could survive in Alaskan waters, if introduced, have been added for consideration by the board to update the list. Splitting “banned invasive species” into two classes allows the legal possession and import of edible portions of listed species that may be sport caught in other states for consumption. This would also allow the harvest and possession of frog legs or signal crayfish for consumption. A signal crayfish fishery has developed on the Buskin River in Kodiak.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-069)
