

**Alaska Board of Fisheries Meeting Presentation
January 15, 2019
Sheraton Hotel, Anchorage
Becky Hassebroek
Proposal AYK #78**

I'm here to speak in support of Proposal #78 for the A-Y-K Management Areas to modify the gear specifications for the Minto Flats Northern Pike sport fishery to single hooks instead of multiple hooks.

Pike are aggressive feeders and, with fishermen often using two sets of treble hooks on one lure, it's easier to land the fish but the mouth, lips, eyes, and gills are often hooked in the process. Removing these multiple hooks add further damage to the fish and possible mortality after release. These multi-hook lures are also of great damage to the hands and arms of those people trying to remove them from a Northern Pike!

The fishermen are able to modify their existing lures by removing any multiple hooks to make them single hooks so will not add any additional cost to the fishermen.

In the Interior, Harding Lake and Little Harding Lake have been recently closed to any fishing for Northern Pike.

Some single hook regulations in the Interior are:

Delta Clearwater River
Chena River
Chatanika River
Fielding Lake
5 Mile Clearwater Creek
Good Pasture River
Harding Lake, prior to closure
Shaw Creek
Pike Driver Slough

Thank you!