PROPOSAL 56
5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area.
Prohibit chumming by guides and other commercial users in portions of the Naknek River drainage sport fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 67.022 (d) (XXX).
Naknek River Drainage:
All waters of the Naknek River watershed closed to chumming including the Naknek River main stem, Pauls Creek, King Salmon Creek, Smelt Creek and Big Creek, and all of Naknek Lake and its tributaries. Applies to guided, self-guided, boat rentals, and those transported by commercial entities.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? We would like to address the issue of "chumming" on the Naknek River and its tributaries. Cleaning your daily catch and disposing of the entrails is one thing but targeting a species in an attempt to increase an angler's odds is both unnatural and defies all avenues of fair chase for sport fish. Any attempt to lure fish to a designated area by chumming should not be allowed. We must not alter our fish's natural predatory instincts on the Naknek River. The Naknek River has been an artificial lure or fly only river for many years since the elimination of bait. Chumming is in many ways like using bait to target fish, especially rainbow trout, which are easily lured in by fish entrails and eggs.

What will happen if nothing is done? If nothing is done the rainbow trout of the Naknek will suffer the most. This river is world renown as a premier destination for wild rainbows, and chumming should have no part in that. The mortality rate of these fragile fish will go up, because they are more prone to swallow hooks or flies when they are lured in by chumming, especially with eggs. Chumming with salmon eggs frequently causes rainbow trout to go into feeding frenzies, and the fish become far less cautious, increasing the likelihood of them taking an artificial lure, and swallowing it, getting it caught in their gills eye or some other part that could prove fatal. Fish in certain areas may even become accustomed to being fed. The regulation would help ensure healthy populations of rainbow trout in the future.

PROPOSED BY: Naknek/Kvichak Fish and Game Advisory Committee   (EF-F18-081)
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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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