

PROPOSAL 35

5 AAC 52.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area.

Amend bag and possession limits for Arctic grayling and methods and means in Moose Creek, as follows:

Moose creek: sport anglers may use baited or unbaited single hook artificial lures. Bag limit is 2 and 2 in possession. Season is open year round. Only catch and release fishing is allowed from April 1 to May 31.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Fishing regulations for Moose Creek in the Copper River Basin do not provide for the protection of the Grayling spawning run. What was once a plentiful fishery has noticeably declined. Along with that loss, is the loss of the symbiotic relationships between Grayling and Mink/Otter, King Fisher, Seagulls and Eagles that has altered where this wildlife is no longer seen hunting the creek. Sport fishing in Moose Creek by youth and adult is now seldom participated in.

Adequate management of this fishery includes (1) Creation and implementation of fishing regulations for Grayling that protect the spawning run and provide for healthy future populations of Grayling in Moose Creek in the Copper River Basin. And, (2) Restoration or reintroduction of Grayling in Moose Creek, in the Copper River Basin, allowing for recreational fishing and the return of the symbiotic relationship between Grayling and other wildlife.

PROPOSED BY: Bonnie McLeod

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