

PROPOSAL 107

5 AAC 09.XXX and 5 AAC 15.XXX. New section.

Adopt marking and reporting requirements for commercially caught salmon retained for a person's own use and not sold in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik management areas, as follows:

We recommend implementing the following measures to address the issue of illegal fish sales in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions:

1. **Mandatory Fin Clipping:** Introduce a regulation requiring all personal use fishery participants in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Island, and Chignik areas to clip the tails of their salmon before leaving the fishing site. Specifically, **all salmon retained under a personal use permit in these regions must have both tips of the tail fin removed prior to concealment or transport from the fishing site.** This will provide a clear visual indicator that the fish was harvested under a personal use permit and is not intended for commercial sale.
2. **Permit Logging and Reporting:** Ensure that participants accurately log their catches on their permits and require permit holders to report their harvests online by a specified date for the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions. This data will support enforcement efforts and provide accurate information for fishery management in these areas.
3. **Enhanced Enforcement:** Increase enforcement efforts to monitor personal use fishing activities in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions and ensure compliance with fin clipping and reporting requirements. Stiff penalties should be imposed for violations, including fines and loss of future personal use fishing privileges.
4. **Regulatory Language Addition:** Add the following language to the relevant section of 5 AAC: **"Salmon harvested under a personal use permit in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions and not marked by clipping both tips of the tail fin as required is considered to be in possession for the purpose of commercial sale and is subject to penalties as defined under Alaska Statute."**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulations for personal use salmon fisheries in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions lack sufficient safeguards to prevent the illegal sale of salmon. Individuals are exploiting the personal use home pack permit system by retaining fish under the guise of personal use and then selling them for profit. This undermines the integrity of personal use fisheries in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions, threatens sustainable management of salmon stocks in these areas, and creates unfair competition with legitimate commercial fishermen. This practice must be addressed to ensure that personal use fisheries in the Alaska Peninsula, Aleutian Islands, and Chignik regions remain for personal consumption only and do not become a conduit for illicit commercial activity.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This proposal was developed by the Koyukuk River Fish & Game Advisory Committee and discussed during a April 9th, 2025 meeting. A motion to submit this proposal on behalf of the Koyukuk River AC was supported unanimously.

PROPOSED BY: Koyukuk River Fish & Game Advisory Committee Jack Reakoff, Chair

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