PROPOSAL 178

5 AAC 75.995. Definitions.

Modify the definition of bag limit, as follows:

(4)"bag limit" means the maximum legal take of fish per person per day, in the area in which the person is fishing, even if part or all of the fish are immediately preserved; a fish when landed and not immediately released becomes a part of the bag limit of **any person taking part in the catch** [THE PERSON ORIGINALLY HOOKING IT];

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations make it hard to assist anglers who need it. For example, if I take a rod out of the rod holder and pass it to someone, or crank the handle to set the hook before another angler takes over- the fish becomes part of my bag limit. If I already have a limit of that species, the fish must be released regardless of whether the angler who fought it has a limit, thus causing higher release mortality- especially with King salmon and Demersal rock fish. I believe that under the current regulation many fisherman are unintentionally breaking the law.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. I have discussed this with numerous sport fisherman and charter captains as well as the local Advisory Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Lucas Bastian	(EF-F26-059)
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