

PROPOSAL 24

5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Tanana River Area.

Repeal designated youth fishing days for Arctic grayling in the Chena River, as follows:

(3) in the Chena River and its tributaries, including Chena Slough (Badger Slough), (C) downstream from an ADF&G regulatory marker located 300 feet downstream from the Chena River flood control structure, the bag and possession limit for Arctic grayling is one fish, any size from June 1 through March 31, [EXCEPT THAT A PERSON 16 YEARS OR OLDER MAY NOT SPORT FISH FOR ARCTIC GRAYLING IN THE CHENA RIVER DOWNSTREAM FROM ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER LOCATED 300 FEET DOWNSTREAM FROM CHENA RIVER FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURE DURING THE EIGHT DAYS DESIGNATED YOUTH FISHING WHICH OCCUR ON FOUR CONSECUTIVE SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS BEGINNING THE THIRD SATURDAY IN JUNE]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Youth grayling fishing during the eight designated fishing days, which occur on four consecutive Saturdays and Sundays beginning the third Saturday in June; Currently this opportunity is for youth under the age of 16 years old. An Adult may not assist the youth catching grayling and the adult/s may not fish for grayling during these days. This restriction unfairly does not work for families/parents who may have a handicap child or children who may need assistance while fishing. Since the creation of this youth opportunity and allowing other anglers an opportunity to catch grayling outside the special 8 days. Crowding or competition (combat fishing) has not been an issue. The elimination of this youth only fishing, will not impact youth fishing opportunity. In fact, it may enhance it. By allowing parents to participate as a family unit in a great grayling opportunity and not be at risk of a possible fishing violation and may receive citation. Eliminating this special opportunity will have no biological effect on the grayling fishery in the Chena River below the flood control.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. The Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee met on April 9th, 2025 and voted unanimously to submit this proposal.

PROPOSED BY: Fairbanks Fish and Game Advisory Committee Jeff Lucas, Chair

(EF-F26-141)
