

PROPOSAL 37

5 AAC 70.011. Seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the Northwestern Area.

Close sport fishing for king salmon in the Pilgrim River, as follows:

In coordination with management practices for the conservation of the Pilgrim River king salmon stock, it is recommended to close king salmon sport fishing and incidental king salmon caught must be released back into the waters immediately.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The northern latitudinal limit for king salmon is near southern Norton Sound, however, king salmon are present in the Pilgrim River, Port Clarence District in small numbers. The five and 10-year average for king salmon escapement on the Pilgrim River is 30 and 55 kings, respectively. Current sports fish regulations in the Port Clarence District for the Pilgrim River are open to sport fishing year-round. Pilgrim River continues to exhibit a low abundance of king salmon due to overall production of the stock. This proposal would address management actions to close sports fishing for king salmon to conserve and sustain what stock is available.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This proposal has been endorsed by the Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (EF-F26-051)
