

PROPOSAL 42

5 AAC 01.125. Waters closed to subsistence fishing and 5 AAC 03.350. Closed waters.

Close waters in the Kotzebue District adjacent to the end of the Kotzebue airport runway to subsistence and commercial fishing, as follows:

5 AAC 01.125 (c) is amended by adding a new subsection to read, as follows:

(c) In Subdistrict 1 of the Kotzebue District, marine waters from ADF&G markers located at the Weather Service Dome south of the airport runway to the NANA building and extending one mile offshore into Kotzebue Sound perpendicular to the beach will be closed to subsistence fishing.

5 AAC 03.350 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read, as follows:

(5) In Subdistrict 1 of the Kotzebue District, marine waters from ADF&G markers located at the Weather Service Dome south of the airport runway to the NANA building and extending one mile offshore into Kotzebue Sound perpendicular to the beach are closed to commercial fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Each year the department issues emergency orders closing waters adjacent to the end of the Kotzebue airport runway to subsistence and commercial fishing. This closure is promulgated to mitigate the potential hazard to aircraft flights in Kotzebue posed by birds being attracted to fishing gear. Adopting this closure into regulation will provide greater transparency and codify longstanding practices.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F26-020)
