

PROPOSAL 96

5 AAC 67.022. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means in the Bristol Bay Area.

Prohibit the use of multiple hooks in the Naknek River drainage, as follows:

I recommend using the same regulatory language as the Nushagak River drainage- “only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used year round”. I recommend extending the existing regulation to the entire Naknek River Drainage, rather than just between the ADF&G regulatory markers between Rapids Camp and Lake Camp. The regulation would apply to all species and read as follows:

(2)In all flowing waters of the Naknek River drainage, [FROM MARCH 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 14], only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used **year round**.

Adopting the above regulatory change would eliminate the need for the regulation below:

[(3) IN ALL FLOWING WATERS OF THE NAKNEK RIVER DRAINAGE UPSTREAM FROM AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER LOCATED AT RAPIDS CAMP (RIVER MILE 24.25), INCLUDING ALL WATERS WITHIN A ONE-QUARTER MILE RADIUS OF ALL INLET AND OUTLET STREAMS INTO ALL LAKES AND PONDS IN THIS AREA, ONLY UNBAITED, SINGLE-HOOK, ARTIFICIAL LURES MAY BE USED;]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I’d like the board to address the issue of allowing multiple hooks on the Naknek River. The use of multiple hooks, often treble hooks and often two sets of treble hooks, is an outdated regulation that was suited for days in the past when there was an abundance of salmon. Today, we are seeing consistent and concerning trends showing declines in both King Salmon and Silver Salmon. In an effort to foster conservation and better stewardship of these declining species, I believe we should change the regulation from allowing multiple hooks to single-hook for all species, year round. Anglers can just as effectively catch salmon using single hooks as opposed to multiple hooks, but single hooks are FAR more effective at successfully releasing fish. This will help prevent unintended mortality of targeted species, as well as help protect others species such as Rainbow Trout and Dolly Varden frequently caught while salmon fishing.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. I have discussed this with other anglers, local guides, business owners and one other member of the Naknek – Kvichak AC in addition to myself.

PROPOSED BY: Patricia Edel

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