

PROPOSAL 17 – 5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet–Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area. Remove the special harvest areas and extend the distance from shore an angler can fish for king salmon after harvesting a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, as follows:

5 AAC 58.022(b)(1)(A) is amended to read:

(b)...

(1) in waters of Cook Inlet north of the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.):

(A) king salmon:

...

(ii) **repealed** / /2017 [THE SALT WATERS WITHIN A ONE MILE RADIUS OF THE TERMINUS OF THE NINILCHIK RIVER ARE CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING FOR KING SALMON FROM JANUARY 1 – JUNE 30, EXCEPT THAT SPORT FISHING FROM SHORE IS ALLOWED ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AND THE FOLLOWING TWO WEEKENDS AND THE MONDAY FOLLOWING EACH OF THOSE WEEKENDS];

(iii) in the salt waters south of the latitude **approximately one mile north** [OF THE MOUTH] of the Ninilchik River (60° 03.99' N. LAT.) to the latitude of Bluff Point (59° 40.00' N. lat.), and within one mile of shore, a person may not, after taking a king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, fish for any species of fish on that same day as specified in 5 AAC 58.055(e);

5 AAC 58.055(d)(1) is amended to read:

(d) The following waters, within one mile of shore, are closed to all sport fishing from April 1 through June 30:

(1) **from an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one mile north** [SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE] of the Ninilchik River **at 60° 03.99' N. lat.** to [THE LATITUDE OF] an ADF&G regulatory marker located two mile south of Deep Creek at 60° 00.68' N. lat., except that sport fishing from shore is allowed on Memorial Day weekend and the following two weekends and the Monday following each of those weekends;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Eliminating the closed area north of the Ninilchik River and extending the conservation zone south of the Ninilchik River to include the area one mile north of the Ninilchik River would simplify regulations in the closed areas surrounding the Ninilchik River from April 1 through June 30. The area one mile north of the Ninilchik River would be included into the *Upper Cook Inlet Salt Water Early-run King Salmon Management Plan*.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F16-120)
