<u>PROPOSAL 227</u> - 5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area. Allow harvest of hatchery king salmon when emergency orders restrict the sport fishery, as follows:

Add the following to the Northern District King Salmon Management Plan:

Continue to allow the retention of adult hatchery fin clipped King Salmon in unit 2 of the Susitna drainage on years of low abundance when emergency order restrictions are implemented on the sport fishery.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Adult hatchery King salmon present in Willow and Little Willow Creek, have not been allowed to be harvested under emergency order restrictions, issued throughout the last decade. Hatchery King salmon should be managed differently than wild stocks. I have observed several fin clipped Kings caught below the Parks Highway bridge on both Willow and Little Willow Creek. Additionally, I have heard of fin clipped fish caught at other Parks Highway streams.

Allowing harvest of hatchery fin clipped King salmon would have a minimal impact on wild stocks and provide an additional opportunity for Alaskans and tourists to harvest fish, in a region where harvest has been seriously restricted.

This is the same protocol that is successfully practiced throughout the Northwestern United States.