

PROPOSAL 234 – 5 AAC 60.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. Open waters in a closed area on Wasilla Creek within 300 feet of Palmer Fishhook Road to sport fishing, as follows:

5 AAC 60.122(a)(11)(A) is repealed:

(11) the Wasilla Creek drainage, including Rabbit Sough,

(A) **repealed** / **2017** [IS CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING WITHIN 300 FEET OF PALMER-FISHHOOK ROAD];

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

King salmon used to hold downstream of the highway in a deep pool that was created over time by perched culverts. The board adopted regulations to protect those salmon from harassment and poaching. Those culverts were replaced and the stream bed returned to a natural state, thereby eliminating the large hole and the holding behavior of king salmon. Fishing opportunity for Dolly Varden char, particularly by children, was lost when the closure went into effect. Repeal of this regulation would result in the area within 300 feet of Palmer Fishhook Road remaining closed to salmon fishing by a separate regulation while allowing opportunity to fish for other species.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F16-148)
