

(i) - We propose that the Eastern no trolling boundary set at the mouth of the Dangerous River be moved Westward 2 miles, as the Western boundary was, to retain the same size no trolling corridor.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Situk River mouth has migrated West approximately 2 miles. The Yakutat Advisory Committee submitted a proposal to move the no trolling corridor in place around the mouth of the Situk estuary Westward Approximately 2 miles to account for the river's migration. This proposal was adopted. We only moved the Western boundaries further Westward with our action, and we failed to moved the Eastern Boundaries, which are currently set at the mouth of the Dangerous River. By this oversight, what we actually did was increase the no trolling zone around the mouth of the estuary, which was not our intent. We only meant to account for the migration of the estuary.

PROPOSED BY: Yakutat Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F17-042)

PROPOSAL 184

5 AAC 29.120. Gear specifications and operations.

Modify gear specifications for the commercial salmon hand troll fishery, as follows:

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section the following hand troll specifications apply: (1) a downrigger may not be used with a troll gurdy; (2) a hand troll gurdy or downrigger powered by hand or hand crank may be used in conjunction with a fishing rod, and is not considered power troll gear; (3) an electric, hydraulic, or power assisted downrigger is considered a power troll gurdy and may not be used in conjunction with a fishing rod;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? allow the use of 2 manually operated down riggers in conjunction with 2 sport rods as a legal means of taking fish in the hantroll fishery year round.

PROPOSED BY: Shawn Mcconnell (EF-F17-091)

PROPOSAL 185

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Increase opportunity to harvest salmon and allow additional gear types in the Southeastern Alaska Area personal use salmon fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 77.682 (k) The Department shall issue permits allowing personal use fishing for salmon with efficient gear types, such as drift gill nets and multiple line troll gear, in all districts open to commercial salmon fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide SE Alaska residents "fair and reasonable" opportunities to efficiently fulfill their personal use salmon needs, as required by AS16.05.251(d).

Contrary to statute, and while failing to act in the broad public interest....

The Board currently prohibits all personal use fishing for both king and coho salmon in SE Alaska (5AAC 77.682 c).

And.

The Board provides no, or very little, personal use fishing opportunities for pink, chum, and sockeye salmon in SE Alaska.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Fox (EF-F17-011)

PROPOSAL 186

5 AAC 77.027. Prohibitions for use of personal use-taken shellfish.

Define what constitutes a guest of a lodge, charter vessel, or other enterprise, as follows:

(a)(3) shellfish is to be consumed by the client or guest or is consumed in the presence of the client or guest. **A "guest" is defined as a person(s) who is not providing payment for any service rendered before, during, or after being considered a guest.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A commercial establishment has been claiming to be providing shellfish to their "guests" (who are any patrons of the bar) that were harvested under personal use regulations. Local Fish and Game enforcement has said it is a grey area because the owner of the establishment is present and his patrons are his guests.

PROPOSED BY: Susan Doherty (EF-F17-115)

PROPOSAL 187

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Open personal use sockeye salmon fishing in the Klawock River, as follows:

(i)(3) We recommend that the right to fish between the Craig-Klawock Highway Bridge and the Klawock River with subsistence beach seines be restored. We recommend that the Alaska Board of Fish make a priority of restoring the great salmon runs that Klawock elders remember.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The area in which subsistence beach seining in the Klawock River watershed is permitted has been diminished in recent years by prohibiting fishing in the area between the Craig-Klawock Highway bridge and the Klawock River.

Why it needs to be addressed: The remaining fishing area below the bridge is limited, and catches in recent years have been drastically reduced. Klawock subsistence fishers have the dilemma of, on the one hand, wishing to increase the escapement, and therefore the sockeye runs, and on the other hand, having an immediate need for sockeye every year for the following winter.

PROPOSED BY: Klawock Tribe (EF-F17-105)

PROPOSAL 188

5 AAC 77.683. Personal Use Fishery Management Plan for the Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, Sitka, and Ketchikan Road Systems.

Provide for personal use harvest of hatchery-produced salmon in Ketchikan Creek, as follows:

5 AAC 77.683 is amended to read:

Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the road systems of Juneau, Petersburg, Wrangell, Sitka, and Ketchikan support only limited runs of salmon. Harvestable numbers of salmon in excess to the spawning escapement needs for those streams are normally of such a small magnitude that these numbers alone are not sufficient to support the consumptive demands of those communities. Therefore, the department shall not issue permits which allow the use of nets for streams along the road systems of those communities **with the exception of Ketchikan Creek where hatchery-origin fish may be harvested.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Deer Mountain Hatchery located on Ketchikan Creek in downtown Ketchikan is operated by the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association. This hatchery has annual returns of king salmon, some of which escape saltwater fisheries and are surplus to the needs of the hatchery. Current regulations prevent a personal use fishery targeting these excess hatchery fish.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-112)

PROPOSAL 189

5 AAC 77.XXX. Personal use aquatic plant fishery.

Provide regulatory provisions necessary to harvest aquatic plants for personal use within the Joint Board of Fisheries and Game nonsubsistence areas in the Southeast Alaska Area, as follows:

Aquatic plants may be harvested by hand for personal use at any time and there are no bag or possession limits except that:

(a) within the Ketchikan nonsubsistence area defined in 5 AAC 99.015(1) there are no harvest limits, except that:

(1) along the shoreline adjacent to the Ketchikan road system, the daily harvest and possession limit is 10 gallons of attached aquatic plants.

(2) there is no limit to the harvest of detached aquatic plants on the beach adjacent to the Ketchikan road system.

(b) within the Juneau nonsubsistence area defined in 5 AAC 99.015(2) the daily harvest and possession limit is 5 gallons of attached aquatic plants, except that:

(1) the shoreline adjacent to the Juneau road system is closed to the taking of attached aquatic plants.

(2) there is no limit to the harvest of detached aquatic plants at the daily high tide line.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations for personal use harvest of aquatic plants stipulate that aquatic plants may only be harvested according to provisions of Chapter 77; however no provisions exist in Chapter 77 for harvest of aquatic plants. Current regulations allow harvest for noncommercial use outside of nonsubsistence areas with no season or bag limit but prohibit (due to lack of provisions allowing it) personal use harvesting of aquatic plants within the nonsubsistence areas described in 5 AAC 99.015. The cities of Juneau and Ketchikan are located in these areas. Many local residents do not realize there is no provision for personal use of aquatic plants and there is likely significant harvest of personal use kelp of various species occurring illegally.

The Juneau nonsubsistence area is centered on the community of Juneau with a population in excess of 30,000, making it the largest community in the region. The aquatic plant resource is not particularly robust in inside waters around Juneau, likely due to reduced salinity from freshwater run off, and the plant population is subject to overharvest. Provisions of this proposal will allow for enforcement of sustainable personal use kelp harvests.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-111)

PROPOSAL 190

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Increase the personal use household limit for sockeye salmon in the Taku River drainage, as follows:

(f) In the Taku River drainage, the total annual limit for each personal use sockeye salmon permit is **10** sockeye salmon for a household of 1 person and **20** sockeye salmon for a household of 2 or more persons.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current bag limits do not provide a fair and reasonable opportunity for Juneau residents to efficiently fulfill their personal use salmon needs.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Fox (EF-F17-029)

PROPOSAL 191

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Amend the personal use salmon season in the Taku River drainage to open the fishery on the fourth Saturday in June, as follows:

(h)(3) In the Taku River drainage, sockeye salmon may be taken only in waters from the Taku River Lodge upstream to the United States/Canada border and from **the fourth Saturday in June** [only from July 1] through July 31.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide Alaska residents a more fair and reasonable opportunity to efficiently fulfill their personal use salmon needs and aligns better with the commercial fishery opening of the third Sunday in June in Canada and in the U.S.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Fox (EF-F17-031)

PROPOSAL 192

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Allow personal use fishing for salmon in District 11, as follows:

(h)(4) in district 11 salmon may be taken during periods closed to commercial fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide Alaska residents a fair and reasonable opportunity to efficiently fulfill their personal use salmon needs in the Juneau area by allowing drift gillnet salmon fishing in district 11.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Fox (EF-F17-033)

PROPOSAL 193

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Establish a personal use salmon set gillnet fishery in Section 15-A, as follows:

Resident personal use fishing is allow (or not restricted) in area 15 a.
Limits should not exceed reasonable household yearly consumption.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Open personal use set netting in Lynn Canal on the west side. I am proposing this issue because I have a cabin on the west side of Lynn Canal and harvesting salmon for personal use is very hard to do in that area 15 A. At this time only drift netting is allowed 3 miles north of my cabin and only at limited times. All summer long I watch commercial fishermen set their nets in front of my cabin and they are allowed to have personal use fish. I think I should also. All Alaskans should have the right to personal use fisheries especially someone who owns land on a very remote beach in Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.

PROPOSED BY: Ken Kreitzer (EF-F17-079)

PROPOSAL 194

5 AAC 77.682. Personal use salmon fishery.

Allow personal use fishing for salmon in District 15, as follows:

(5) in district 15 salmon may be taken during periods closed to commercial fishing.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Provide Alaska residents a fair and reasonable opportunity to efficiently fulfill their personal use salmon needs in the Juneau area by allowing drift gillnet salmon fishing in district 15.

PROPOSED BY: Mike Fox

(EF-F17-034)

PROPOSAL 195

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye salmon in Southeast Alaska Area salt waters, as follows:

(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no annual limit **for residents. The annual limit for nonresidents is two times the daily bag limit for sockeye salmon;** no size limit; . . . (continue with current text)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Abuses to sport fishing bag and possession limits by some nonresident anglers are well known. These behavior patterns by a few nonresidents are contributing to conservation issues on some streams that are difficult to quantify and address. One of the first pieces of information required to assess the impacts of nonresident anglers is to document the total harvest of salmon by this group. Personal Use and Subsistence fisheries for Chinook, silver, and sockeye salmon generally have annual limits that are recorded in the field on a harvest record. The mail-out harvest survey is inadequate for this type of accounting.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

(HQ-F17-013)

PROPOSAL 196

5 AAC 47.022. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Establish nonresident annual limits for sockeye salmon in Southeast Alaska Area fresh waters, as follows:

(b)(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no annual limit **for residents. The annual limit for nonresidents is two times the daily bag limit for sockeye salmon;** no size limit; . . . (continue with current text for remainder of section)

(c)(2) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 – December 31; no annual limit **for residents. The annual limit for nonresidents is two times the daily bag limit for sockeye salmon;** no size limit; . . . (continue with current text for remainder of section)

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Abuses to sport fishing bag and possession limits by some nonresident anglers are well known. These behavior patterns by a few nonresidents are contributing to conservation issues on some streams that are difficult to

quantify and address. One of the first pieces of information required to assess the impacts of nonresident anglers is to document the total harvest of salmon by this group. Personal Use and Subsistence fisheries for Chinook, silver, and sockeye salmon generally have annual limits that are recorded in the field on a harvest record. The mail-out harvest survey is inadequate for this type of accounting.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory Council (HQ-F17-014)

PROPOSAL 197

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Simplify current freshwater sport fishing regulations for king salmon in freshwater drainages of the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023(g)(10) is amended to read:

(g) In the Sitka vicinity:

(10) in the freshwater drainages that drain into the Sitka Sound Special Use Area, described in 5 AAC 47.021(g)(1),

(A) the bag **and possession** limit for king salmon, [28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH,] is **ten** [FIVE] fish, **no size limit; and**

(B) **repealed / / ;** THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR KING SALMON, LESS THAN 28 INCHES IN LENGTH, IS FIVE FISH; AND]

(C) a king salmon taken by a nonresident does not count towards the nonresident annual limit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Wild king salmon stocks are not present in the freshwater drainages of the Sitka Sound Special Use Area. Liberal king salmon bag and possession limits in these drainages provide incentive and opportunity for anglers to harvest surplus hatchery fish that have strayed. The current regulatory separation between allowed size categories (five king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length, and five fish less than 28 inches in length) are not biologically necessary and add unnecessary regulatory complexity.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-126)

PROPOSAL 198

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Amend the open season for Dolly Varden in Auke Bay, as follows:

This regulation currently reads as follows: "In the waters of Auke Bay, east of a line from Waydelich (Wadleigh) Creek to and ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile south of the mouth of Auke Creek, Dolly Varden may be taken only from June 1 - March 31"

I would like the Board to amend the relevant part of this regulation to read: "south of the mouth of Auke Creek, Dolly Varden may be taken only from July 1 - April 30"

The proposed change to this regulation simply shifts the closed season in order to allow local Dolly sport fishing to occur in May and June. The existing and proposed regulation both keep the waters closed for 2 months; the proposed simply shifts the period when Dolly fishing may occur from April and May, to May and June.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There is a very healthy population of Dolly Varden in the area defined by this regulation. There is no heavy sport fishing pressure on Dolly Varden in this area. Auke Lake feeds Auke Creek and Dolly Varden are the major predator of salmon fry migrating out of Auke Lake and Auke Creek, where there is a NMFS salmon hatchery. The closure authorized by the existing regulation prohibits Dolly fishing when there are Dolly Varden present in the defined waters; before and after April and May, there are no Dolly Varden present at all, because there is nothing for them to prey on. Changing the regulation to allow Dolly Varden fishing in May and June would give sport anglers like me a chance to actually take our kids there to actually try to catch a Dolly.

PROPOSED BY: Bruce Weyhrauch (EF-F17-001)

PROPOSAL 199

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Increase the bag limit for Dolly Varden on the Juneau road system, as follows:

Proposal: Increase the daily bag and possession limit on the Juneau road system beaches and drainages to four fish. This will allow those who harvest Dolly Varden for the table to enjoy a more reasonable bag limit and be less particular regarding the size of their kept catch.

Proposed language:

5 AAC 47.023(e)(1)(A)(v) the bag and possession limit for Dolly Varden is **four** [TWO] fish;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Dolly Varden are abundant in the Juneau area, but bag and possession limits are quite small. This is unnecessarily limiting to shore side anglers who harvest fish for the table but haven't access to the boat accessible marine fishery.

Dolly Varden limits are 10 per day and 10 in possession nearly everywhere in Southeast; on the Juneau road system beaches the limit is 2 per day and 2 in possession. By my experience and the observations of others who fish the Juneau beaches and watersheds, the number of fishermen who harvest Dolly Varden are few, but those who do harvest are typically those who haven't access to the marine fishery by boat. However, they are fishing within sight of boat fisherman who – should

they choose – may harvest five times as many Dollies. The reason for this disparate arrangement is unknown to anyone searching for a management objective in the available literature. I have heard that the reason for the small road system limit may be to eliminate the need to manage the fishery at all – the limit is so small that no concern need be exerted to maintain a harvestable population. If so, that is an abdication of responsibility by the Department and an arbitrary limit on fishermen in Juneau who may be providing for their families by harvesting the fish to which they have access without a boat. It also results in an incentive for those who do harvest to release many fish because, with a two fish limit, one wants to maximize the bag. This undoubtedly results in many fish that may be mortally wounded being released.

PROPOSED BY: Verne Skagerberg (EF-F17-032)

PROPOSAL 200

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area and 5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Prohibit snagging in all salt and freshwaters along the Juneau road system, with minor exceptions, as follows:

Snagging of sport fish (salmon, trout, char, etc...) is prohibited in all fresh and saltwater along the Juneau Road System, with exception to approved areas when hatchery fish abundance is strong. These excluded areas would include Fish Creek Pond and the beach in front of Wayside Park to from the retaining wall to within the existing boundary line 150 feet of the CBJ Wayside Park Fishing Park. All other waters will be closed to snagging as a method and means.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There has been growing concern of user group conflict between sport groups, mainly between snagging and all other user groups. With the expanded fishing opportunities on the Juneau Road System have seen more clash than before. The method and means of anglers using sport fishing gear (bait, spin, fly, etc...) coexist and work together with etiquette. Anglers using snagging as a method and means focus only on the harvest and forego etiquette, causing conflict to other anglers

In addition to conflict with other user groups, anglers utilizing snagging are searching for the highest quality fish, mainly hatchery. In some areas, such as the Sheep Creek area, anglers trying to snag hatchery silver salmon will unintentionally snag other species such as dolly varden, cutthroat trout, pinks salmon, flounder. All of which are non hatchery native fish. These fish are often discarded as trash and are returned to the water mortally wounded by the heavily lead weighted large treble hooks. Intentionally discarding of mortally wounded game fish is a waste.

This solution gives persons who prefer snagging as a method and means, to have access to hatchery fish for harvest. At the same time it will help curb user conflict. It may also help curtail some of the poaching associated with snagging.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Cole (EF-F17-085)

PROPOSAL 201

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Allow catch-and-release only in the Juneau vicinity Dredge Lakes area, as follows:

In all waters within the Dredge Lakes area. Catch and Release only. No possession of sport fish or bait in the area is permitted.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Ever increasing poor quality sport fishing in the Dredge Lake Area, Juneau, AK. Due to lack of fish and high fish pressure.

PROPOSED BY: Tony Soltys (HQ-F17-015)

PROPOSAL 202

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Allow only single, barbless hooks on artificial lures in the Dredge Lakes area, as follows:

In all waters within the Dredge Lakes area, only single barbless hooks on artificial lures are permitted.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Ever increasing poor quality sport fishing in the Dredge Lake Area, Juneau, AK. due to lack of fish and high fishing pressure.

PROPOSED BY: Tony Soltys (HQ-F17-016)

PROPOSAL 203

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Rescind the salmon sport fishing closure in Sheep Creek, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023 (e)(l)(J) is amended to read:

(e) In the Juneau vicinity:

(1) in all drainages crossed by the Juneau City and Borough road system,

(J) Auke Nu Creek, Kowee Creek on Douglas Island, [SHEEP CREEK], and Waydelich Creek (Wadleigh Creek) are closed to sport fishing for salmon.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The salmon fishing closure in Sheep Creek is no longer necessary. This closure was established to protect hatchery broodstock. Recently the Sheep Creek hatchery facility was removed and the site is no longer used for broodstock collection making the closure unnecessary. This action will provide additional fishing opportunity and simplify regulation by removing an unnecessary regulation.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F17-121)

PROPOSAL 204

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Amend bag limit and season provisions and establish an annual limit for sockeye salmon in Windfall Creek, as follows:

I recommend that with the strong sockeye stock and if escapement goal are reached, Windfall Creek goes to a harvest tag system where anglers can harvest up to their yearly allowance in a single day. Where the creek will be closed the June 1st through Aug 1 with the exception on Tuesday-Thursday and Sat-Sun in the month of June. This will give the creek Mondays and Fridays for safe fish passage in the month of June.

For example, if ADF&G Area Biologist find the run can handle a 3 fish annual harvest per angler, then the season will be as follows: Windfall Creek will be open to fishing in the month of June with the exception of Mondays and Fridays. The creek will be closed to all sport fishing from 12:01 am to 11:59 pm on those days. Anglers are allowed 3 sockeye per day with a total annual limit of 3 fish. Harvest must be recorded on your fishing license. Anglers may not sport fish for sockeye salmon once their harvest limit has been reached.

Opening the creek to a limited harvest with more allowable fishing days would help spread out the fishing pressure and crowding issues currently seen under the current regulations. It should also allow for minimal escapement needed to keep the run at healthy stock levels.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Background: Currently the outlet creek of Windfall Lake is Juneau's only roadside sockeye fishery. By Emergency Order, Windfall Creek is open to fishing for sockeye salmon every Saturday and Wednesday in the month of June. There is a one fish per day/one in possession harvest allowance when the stock allows. Because it is the only roadside sport fishery for sockeye in Juneau, the small stream sees excessive crowding on the days that it open. This can cause user conflict and "hole hogging" as the fish tend to sit in only a few small locations near the creek mouth.

PROPOSED BY: Michael Cole (EF-F17-087)

PROPOSAL 205

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska area.

Prohibit multiple and barbed hooks in the Tsiu River drainage, as follows:

(b)(x) In the Tsiu drainage area barbed and multiple hooks, lures prohibited for all sport fishing in fresh water.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? I would like to see the Tsiu river go single, barbless hooks for all sport fishing for Salmon in fresh water. It would help to eliminate the waste of a valuable resource.

PROPOSED BY: Harold Perantie (EF-F17-002)
