

PROPOSAL 54

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

Limit the hours guides or clients can fish on a section of the Naknek River, as follows:

I suggest as a resolution to this problem, a regulated fishing time that guides and clients are allotted to be on the river fishing from lake camp to rapids camp. This allotted time could start at 8am and end at 6pm. After 6pm no guides or clients will be allowed to trout fish from that area.

This would allow time for residents to enjoy the fishing on an uncrowded river and would also give the trout a much needed break from the constant traffic and pressure.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? An issue I would like the board to address concerns the hours guides and clients are spending on the upper river of the Naknek trout fishing. Specifically the area from the marker at lake camp to the marker downriver at rapids camp.

From the opener June 8th until well into October, the number of guides and clients trout fishing has exploded in the past few years. Being that the trout fishing mainly occurs in the upper part of the river, this is a very small area and is overrun with guides and clients pretty much all season long from the early hours in the morning until late in the evenings.

Guides are sent out early in the morning to secure spots for the lodges clients who arrive after having breakfast. Guides are left on the river to occupy spots while the clients are brought back to the lodge for lunch and then returned to fish spots secured by the guides "holding" the area for them on the river. When the clients are headed in for the day, now it's the guides time to fish. They drop the clients off and head right back out.

I am all for people fishing this river and enjoying its trout but over the last few years this river has become grossly overrun with guides and clients. Venturing upriver after work or on the weekend for people that live here and want to enjoy the rainbow fishing usually results in a wasted trip being that the spots on the river are all occupied by lodges. I myself live here to enjoy what the area has to offer and I'm letting you know that the upper river is and has been out of control for some time now. Something must be done not only to protect this valuable resource but to allow the people that live here to enjoy as well.

PROPOSED BY: Jason Lazore

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