

**PROPOSAL 61**

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

Prohibit blocking access to sport fishing locations in the Naknek River, as follows:

5 AAC 67.022 (d) (XXX).

**-Naknek River Main Stem**

**The staking out or marking of areas along the Naknek River using boats, guides or lodge employees or other individuals, ice chests, buckets, fishing gear, etc for the purpose of holding a fishing hole or zone for fishermen not yet present is not allowed.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** We would like to address the issue of so called “pilot” boats being used to hold or stake out fishing zones or holes until fishermen or clients arrive. It has become common in recent years during the peak fishing times, most notably during the height of the red salmon run, to see a boat or multiple boats from a given lodge with just the driver holding a prime fishing spot on the bank of the river until another boat or boats from the lodge can bring the groups of clients up to fish. This prevents other fishermen from getting to these sought-after fishing locations first. They also lay out 5 gallon buckets and ice chests to make the impression that somebody is fishing there. In doing this, one or two boat drivers from a lodge can hold down an entire section of river bank until clients arrive.

What will happen if nothing is done? If nothing is done quality of experience for all anglers, both guided and local residents, will continue to suffer. Access to prime fishing zones will be greatly restricted.

**PROPOSED BY:** Naknek/Kvichak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-F18-085)

\*\*\*\*\*