PROPOSAL 75

5 AAC 74.010. Seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Tanana River Area.

Repeal the bag limit for northern pike in the Chisana River drainage upstream of the Northway Bridge, as follows:

~~5 AAC 74.010 (c)

[(4) IN THE CHISANA RIVER DRAINAGE UPSTREAM OF THE NORTHWAY BRIDGE, (A) IN ALL LAKES, THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR NORTHERN PIKE IS TWO FISH, OF WHICH ONLY ONE FISH MAY BE 30 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH; (B) IN ALL FLOWING WATERS, THE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT FOR NORTHERN PIKE IS TWO FISH, OF WHICH ONLY ONE FISH MAY BE 30 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH;]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Chisana River drainage is in the upper headwaters of the Tanana River drainage. Most sport fishing can occur only along the Alaska Highway after Northway Junction and before crossing the border to Canada.

The most road accessible northern pike fishing locations are Scottie and Desper Creek that cross the highway, Deadman Lake in the Tetlin NWR, and the Chisana river accessible from Northway village. This regulation seems unnecessary as all other pike fishing in the Tanana River drainage, more accessible to the public, has a bag and possession limit of 5 northern pike. Removing this regulation will simplify the regulations for the northern pike sport fishing in the Tanana drainage and provide additional harvest opportunity. Very few pike are harvested in the drainage and this change should not affect sustainability.