PROPOSAL 221

5 AAC 61.114. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.

Extend the use of bait to September 11 in Unit 2 of the Susitna River Drainage Area sport fishery, as follows:

Amend Unit 2 artificial lure season as follows: (3) in flowing waters only one unbaited, single-hook artificial lure may be used from September 11 [1] - May 31 and from June 1 - July 13 only unbaited, artificial lures may be used.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Please allow sport anglers to fish bait for 10 additional days into September in specific Susitna River drainage Unit 2 waters currently open to bait fishing. When restricted to single-hook artificial lures after August 31, sportfishing effort and harvests plummet, even though harvestable coho salmon remain available. Susitna River drainage sport anglers should be allowed to fish with bait for coho through September 10 in order to more fully utilize this fishery resource.