

PROPOSAL 72

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

Allow for catch-and-release fishing in Bathing Beauty Pond, Bear Lake, Moose Lake, Polaris Lake, Piledriver Slough, and Moose Creek, as follows:

5 AAC 74.010(c)(17) is amended to read:

(17) in Piledriver Slough and its tributaries **and in the Moose Creek drainage, finfish species** [UPSTREAM FROM ITS CONFLUENCE WITH MOOSE CREEK, ARCTIC GRAYLING] may be taken by catch-and-release fishing only;

5 AAC 74.010(c) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(33) in Bathing Beauty Pond, Bear Lake, Moose Lake, and Polaris Lake, finfish species may be taken by catch-and-release fishing only;

5 AAC 74.010(d)(13) is amended to read:

(d) In the Tanana River Management Area, the following special provisions to methods and means apply:

...

(13) in Piledriver Slough **and in the Moose Creek drainage** [UPSTREAM OF ITS CONFLUENCE WITH MOOSE CREEK], only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In 2019, the board provided the department emergency order authority to restrict stocked waters to catch-and-release fishing when potentially unsafe levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were detected in the water or fish tissue. Bathing Beauty Pond, Bear Lake, Moose Lake, Polaris Lake, Piledriver Slough, and Moose Creek are within or immediately adjacent to ground water plumes contaminated with PFAS, and this contamination will likely persist for an extended period. This proposal modifies the bag and possession limits for these lakes to catch-and-release only out of an abundance of caution.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F22-056)
