PROPOSAL 11
5 AAC 58.060. Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan.
Allow Alaska resident anglers to use two rods for salmon as follows:

5 AAC 58.060. Cook Inlet Winter Salt Water King Salmon Sport Fishery Management Plan.

(a) The purpose of the management plan under this section is to meet the Board of Fisheries' goal of slowing the growth in the sport harvest of king salmon in the salt waters of Cook Inlet during the winter, which occurs from September 1 through March 31.

(b) In the winter salt water king salmon sport fishery in Cook Inlet
      (1) the guideline harvest level is 4,500 king salmon;
      (2) the sport harvest will be estimated annually by the department's statewide harvest survey;
      (3) the bag and possession limit for king salmon is two fish;
      (4) the annual limit and harvest record specified in 5 AAC 58.022 does not apply.

(c) from October 1 through March 31, an Alaskan Resident sport fish angler may use two rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(d) For the purposes of this section, Cook Inlet consists of the salt waters of Cook Inlet west of the longitude of Gore Point at 150° 57.85' W. long., and north of the latitude of Cape Douglas at 58° 51.10' N. lat., including all of Kachemak Bay.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The winter salt water king salmon sport fishery is an exceptional opportunity for anglers to harvest high quality salmon during a time of low opportunity. Smaller vessels don't have the capacity to carry multiple anglers comfortably and safely during winter weather. Larger vessels with multiple rods have an advantage of running multiple lures and attractants and because of this they are more efficient at harvesting fish. Allowing 2 rods per angler in Kachemak Bay, similar to regulations in SE salmon fisheries, would allow Alaskan Resident anglers with smaller vessels to harvest king salmon more efficiently.

PROPOSED BY: Dan Miotke   (HQ-F23-027)
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