

PROPOSAL 16

5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area.

Expand the boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only fishery as follows:

From the mouth of the Ninilchik River upstream [to the Sterling Highway Bridge Marker] **approximately 2 miles to the ADF&G markers**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current boundary of the Ninilchik River Youth-Only Fishery should be expanded. The current fishery forces participants to fish in a small area downstream from Sterling Highway Bridge. This should be changed to mirror the fishing area currently allowed for all other King Salmon Fisheries on the Ninilchik River. Not only will this create parity and clarity to the current regulations it will give participants more room to fish in a non-combat atmosphere. Additionally, the change will help fulfill the ADFG strategic goal of increasing interest, enjoyment, and participation of fisheries by Alaskan youth. Some additional benefits would be elimination of need for staff to post needed signage for 2nd boundary. And to address issues of concern- this change would not require additional enforcement as the area is same as weekends. Furthermore, there is no change suggested in allowable harvest, means, or methods. Only to increase the area to the current size of all other openings of King Salmon on Ninilchik River.

PROPOSED BY: Jim Stubbs

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