

**PROPOSAL 183**

**5 AAC 57.150. Russian River Sockeye Management Plan.**

Allow the department to take action sooner to harvest surplus in Russian River sockeye salmon runs as follows:

5 AAC 57.150 is amended to read:

...

**(X) If the department is able to project the Russian River sockeye salmon escapement goal will be achieved the commissioner may, by emergency order, increase the bag and possession limit.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The department's Russian River sockeye salmon assessment weir is located at the outlet of Lower Russian Lake, upriver of the fishery for those stocks. The truncated timing of the early run and frequent strong performance of late-run Russian River sockeye stocks along with current emergency order authority, has limited the department's ability to increase harvest potential, since existing emergency order authority (5 AAC 75.003(2)(A)) does not allow an increase in bag limits until the escapement goal is projected to be exceeded.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F23-022)

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