

**PROPOSAL 218**

**5 AAC 61.118. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area.**

Allow harvest of king salmon between 20 and 24 inches in Unit 4 of the Susitna River Drainage Area as follows:

I would like to harvest small male chinook salmon. The current printed regulations are very useless and out dated to us in unit 4 because we have been operating under an EO for 6+ years for our king season. In the regulation book we can harvest 10 jacks under 20inches a day. Although we haven't been able to eat a King salmon in years.

I'm unaware of a study on immature kings returning early. Nobody knows if they are biologically useful or not. There is a surplus of males. 100 percent of jacks are males. I want to harvest some of our surplus jacks instead of just catch and release. I would like to see regulation changed to be able to harvest 2 chinook 24inches and smaller per day. Once you've harvested 2 immature kings you have to quit salmon fishing that day. That should remove some pressure on our mature breeder kings.

In unit 4 Susitna drainage. Under king salmon regulations add the following:

King Salmon between 20 and 24inches, bag limit 2 per day 4 in possession.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I have almost no source fresh meat until sockeyes show up in mid July in unit 4.... If they show up then. After a hard winter in Alaska fresh meat is very desirable. I can only harvest 2 rainbows per day starting in mid June so we can't even harvest enough of those to feed my family. The northern pike population in flowing waters is very low and no longer a reliable source of meat. I am very concerned and confused that our fish resources in unit 4 are not being managed to sustained yield (HARVEST) principle.

**PROPOSED BY:** Payton McHoes

(EF-F23-109)

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