

PROPOSAL 246

5 AAC 60.120. General provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Knik Arm Drainages Area. and 5 AAC 61.110. General provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Susitna River Drainage Area.

Update the lists of lakes where anglers may use five lines while fishing for northern pike through the ice in designated Northern Cook Inlet waters as follows:

5 AAC 60.120(7)(C) is amended to read:

...

(C) [ANDERSON LAKE, FIGURE EIGHT LAKE] **all waters east of the Susitna River, west of the Little Susitna River and south of the Enstar Gas Pipeline right-of-way (Figure Eight area lakes), Anna Lake, Beaverhouse Lake, Cow Lake, East Papoose Lake,** Flathorn Lake, **Gerry Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Hourglass Lake, Loonsong Lake, Lynda Lake,** Memory Lake, all Nancy Lake drainage lakes except Nancy Lake, Prator Lake, **Sevenmile Lake, Stephan Lake, West Beaver Lake, West Horseshoe Lake, and West Papoose Lake,** [AND STEPHAN LAKE] with five lines through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.110(8)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately.

5 AAC 61.110(8)(C) is amended to read:

(C) Alexander Creek, **Bulchitna Lake, Eightmile Lake,** Fish Creek (lower Susitna River drainage), Fish Creek (Kroto Slough), Indian Creek, Witsoe Creek, and in Alexander Lake, Amber Lake, Crystal Lake, Donkey Lake, **Fish Lakes,** Hewitt Lake, Kroto Lakes, Lady Slipper Lake, **Little Bulchitna Lake,** Lockwood Lakes, Long Lake, Neil Lake, No Name (Cabin) Lake, Onestone Lake, Parker Lake, **Scotty Lake,** Shell Lake, Shirley Lake, Sucker Lake, Trail Lake, Trapper Lake, Upper and Lower Vern Lakes, Whitsol Lake, and Whiskey Lake, with five lines through the ice; allowable gear is limited to standard ice fishing gear as specified in 5 AAC 61.110(8)(B); fishing gear must be closely attended as specified in 5 AAC 75.033; all other species of fish caught must be released immediately;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Northern pike are a predatory fish invasive to Southcentral Alaska and can pose a significant threat to salmon and resident fish species in the region. To encourage anglers to harvest northern pike, systems that primarily contain northern pike have regulations allowing anglers to use five lines through the ice. Expanding that list to include the proposed waters may encourage anglers to fish these areas and harvest northern pike. Northern pike were eradicated from Anderson Lake and this lake can now be removed from the list.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F23-001)
