

PROPOSAL 47

5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area and 5 AAC 64.051. Waters closed to sport fishing in the Kodiak Area.

Repeal areas closed to snagging and sport fishing in the Kodiak Area as follows:

5 AAC 64.022(b)(6)(C) is repealed:

[(C) MONASHKA BAY: ALL WATERS WEST OF A LINE FROM TERMINATION POINT TO MILLER POINT FROM MAY 1 – JULY 5] **Repealed;**

5 AAC 64.051(2) is repealed:

[(2) FROM JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, THE EAST BANK OF MONASHKA CREEK BETWEEN THE MONASHKA HIGHWAY BRIDGE AND ADF&G REGULATORY MARKERS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 100 YARDS DOWNSTREAM] **Repealed;**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Monashka Creek drainage was previously used as a brood source for the Kodiak Road Zone (KRZ) king salmon stocking project. Regulations pertaining to snagging and closed waters in the creek were originally implemented to protect king salmon returning to Monashka Bay and Monashka Creek for use in broodstock collection while still allowing some opportunity for harvest of king salmon in the creek. However, due to poor returns in Monashka Creek, alternate brood sources and stocking locations have been utilized since 2016. In addition, Monashka Creek has more recently been stocked with coho salmon and has become one of the most popular sport fishing locations in the KRZ due to ease of access and relatively large returns. In 2020, regulations were revised to reduce closed waters in Monashka Creek to accommodate crowding issues and allow for greater access to coho salmon in the creek and further simplifying Monashka Bay and Creek sport fishing regulations will similarly benefit anglers. Current regulations protecting king salmon in Monashka Bay and Monashka Creek are no longer relevant since alternate brood sources are now utilized and the bank closure is not relevant to the primary fishery in the drainage targeting coho salmon. This proposal will simplify existing regulations for Monashka Bay, clarify regulations for Monashka Creek, and allow for greater access to coho salmon.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F23-019)
