

**PROPOSAL 48**

**5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.**

Modify the bag and possession limit for coho salmon in the Miam, Sacramento, and Saltery drainages as follows:

5 AAC 64.022(b) is amended to read:

...

(b)(8) in the Kodiak Road Zone, from September 16 – December 31, the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is one fish, except that in the following [STOCKED] waters the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is two fish:

- (A) Monashka Creek and Pillar Creek;
- (B) Mission Beach: all waters between ADF&G regulatory markers at Shahafka Cove;
- (C) Mill Bay: all waters between ADF&G regulatory markers;
- (D) Monashka Bay: all waters west of a line from Termination Point to Miller Point;
- (E) Miam, Sacramento, and Saltery drainages.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Current regulations for Kodiak Road Zone (KRZ) coho salmon runs were established in 1996. Regulations were revised in 2017 to conserve coho salmon while maintaining sport fishing opportunity, since many of these drainages have small runs and relatively high angler effort. Thirteen of the major KRZ drainages with coho salmon populations are easily accessible by highway vehicle. Three more drainages, Miam, Sacramento, and Saltery, require backcountry travel and are accessed primarily via all-terrain vehicle. Additional trip planning and preparation is necessary to access the Sacramento River because beach travel is only achievable with low tides. Due to the remoteness of the Miam, Sacramento, and Saltery drainages, sport fishing effort directed at coho salmon is low. Angler harvest is generally concentrated at the major road accessible drainages, particularly once the bag limit is reduced to one fish after September 15. Removing the seasonal bag limit change within these drainages will increase coho salmon angling opportunities for the duration of the sport fishery. Due to access limitations and abundant coho salmon sport fishing opportunity in other, less remote KRZ drainages, this proposal will not create significant conservation concerns.

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

(HQ-F23-018)

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