

PROPOSAL 8

5 AAC 58.030. Methods, means, and general provisions – Finfish.

Prohibit snagging in Seldovia Bay as follows:

From January 1 through June 15, snagging is closed in the waters of Seldovia Bay starting at the entrance of the Seldovia Boat harbor including all waters east and south of the breakwater wall and upstream through the Seldovia slough and including the entire Seldovia Lagoon.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In a recent regulation change the salt waters of Kachemak Bay were opened to snagging to align with the rest of Cook Inlet. This change included the waters of the Seldovia Slough and Lagoon. The Department of Fish and Game releases king salmon smolt in the Seldovia Lagoon each summer. Historically the waters of the Seldovia slough and lagoon were closed to snagging until June 24th. This gave people the opportunity to enjoy the sport fishery before snagging opened and fish could be harvested before they began to turn.

Seldovia and this fishery would benefit more if the regulation returns to the way it has been historically. Since ADF&G began releasing the king smolt in the head of Seldovia Lagoon the returning adults spend more time there causing them to turn faster than they have historically. To allow for equal opportunity and a chance to harvest these fish while they're still bright we propose moving the snagging date up one week from June 24th to June 15th.

PROPOSED BY: Seldovia Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(EF-F23-131)
