

PROPOSAL 163

5 AAC 33.381. District 6: Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan.

Nonresident annual limits for king salmon will apply in the Blind Slough terminal harvest area, as follows:

King salmon caught in the Blind Slough THA should be counted towards a non-residents annual bag limit. The new regulation shall read:

5ACC 33.381

(b)

(5) King salmon harvested in the Bind Slough THA shall count towards a non-residents annual King salmon bag limit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Crystal Lake Hatchery is repeatedly failing to meet its King Salmon Broodstock goals in recent years. This has coincided with the massive growth in the non-resident unguided sport fish industry. There are now four fishing lodges at the mouth of Blind Slough with over 50 unguided skiffs for non-residents. Current regulations allow non-residents to keep an unlimited amount of King salmon during their stay as the Blind slough THA is excluded from annual bag limit regulations. This is a finite resource that has become over exploited. This has resulted in fishery closures and less fish available for resident sport fishermen and broodstock collection.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. I discussed this proposal with several of my local AC members and they encouraged me to submit it.

PROPOSED BY: Andrew Kittams

(EF-F24-082)
