

PROPOSAL 88

5 AAC 55.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sounds Area.

Modify coho salmon fishery bag limits and methods and means if the commercial fishery is closed, as follows:

New regulatory language to be added under 5 AAC 55.023 (XX) **In the Copper River Delta, in years with low run entry combined with low aerial survey counts and after seven consecutive days of commercial fishing closures, then the bag limits will be reduced to 2 fish and fishing with bait will be prohibited. If the commercial fishery is closed for 14 consecutive days combined with low aerial survey counts, then the bag limit will be reduced to one coho and catch and release will be prohibited.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Establish restrictions in the Copper River Delta coho salmon sport fishery based on the number of consecutive days the commercial fishery is closed.

Establish restrictions in the Copper River Delta coho salmon sport fishery based on the shared burden of conservation and the increased use and ease of access in the sport fishery. In 2018 we failed to achieve the SEG for the Copper River Delta due to delayed sport fishing restrictions.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This Proposal was discussed and developed by the Copper River/Prince William Sound Advisory Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Copper River/PWS Advisory Committee

(HQ-F24-035)
