

PROPOSAL 93

5 AAC 52.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Upper Copper River and Upper Susitna River Area.

Modify area closed to sport fishing in Hungry Hollow Creek, as follows:

5 AAC 52.023(9)(E) is amended to read:

...

(E) in all waters of the Middle Fork of the Gulkana River from the outlet of Dickey Lake to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately three miles downstream, including Hungry Hollow Creek **downstream of the outlet of Wait-A-Bit Lake**, and Twelvemile Creek,

(i) sport fishing is allowed only from June 15 – April 14, except that sport fishing for king salmon is closed; king salmon may not be taken or possessed and must be released immediately and returned to the water unharmed;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A seasonal sport fishing closure (April 15 – June 14) was implemented in a section of the Middle Fork Gulkana River and Hungry Hollow Creek in 1997 to protect spawning rainbow and steelhead trout. Twelvemile Creek was included in the sport fishing closure regulations in 2003. Since 1997, several surveys and radiotelemetry work have failed to identify any rainbow trout presence in Hungry Hollow Creek above the outlet to Wait-a-Bit Lake. Hungry Hollow Creek extends upstream of Wait-A-Bit Lake and drains several road-accessible lakes along the Denali Highway including Octopus, Teardrop, and Ten Mile Lakes that support lake trout, Arctic grayling and whitefish populations. Removal of the sport fishing closure will allow additional angler opportunity for these waters.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F23-170)
