(Proposal 10 was submitted by two proposers. The proposal and justification for each proposer is listed below.)

<u>PROPOSAL 10</u> - 5 AAC 56.122. Special provisions for the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai Peninsula Area. Require mandatory retention of king salmon caught with bait on Anchor River, Deep Creek, and the Ninilchik River, as follows:

The solution to this problem would be to eliminate the option of catch and release with bait. If you want to fish with bait because of its effectiveness and your goal is to catch fish for the freezer, thats ok. However, once you land a fish, that fish must be retained. The option to catch and release with bait killing as many as 6 out of 10 as fish are "sorted through" no longer exists.

New regulation would read to the effect of <u>During the dates of (normally stated King Salmon</u> fishing dates) fishermen choosing to use bait who land a King Salmon over the length of 20 inches must retain that fish and immediately record their catch. The practice of catch and release of King Salmon using bait is prohibited.

New regulation would apply to the open waters of Anchor River, Ninilchik River, and Deep Creek during the King Salmon season.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The use of bait allowing for "increased harvest opportunity" within the waters of Anchor River, Ninilchik River, and Deep Creek has had the unintended consequence of drastically increasing "cryptic mortality". The practice of fisherman choosing to use bait and then "sort" through their fish until landing one they deem worth retention has resulted in a large amount of fish surccoming to the increased mortality rates of bait fishing. The latest study of fish mortality of catch and release with artificial means vs. bait by Idaho Fish and Game showed 4-6% with artificial lures/ flies and ~25% with bait. In the 1996 report "Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada" by Schiller and Bergersen it was determined to be approximately 10% vs. 32-64% respectively for artificial lures/ flies vs. bait. While the idea of increased harvest opportunity with the use of bait in a fishery that clearly is going to be within the escapement goal is a reasonable idea, the idea of killing multiple fish to get the one and angler likes is unacceptable.

If nothing is changed there will continue to be unnecessary mortality to King Salmon runs that have struggled to meet the minimum escapement goals for the last several years

Other options would be to eliminate bate entirely, however, that would impact harvest opportunity.

(EF-F16-153)

PROPOSED BY: Zach Stubbs

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The use of Bait in Anchor, Deep Creek, and Ninilchick rivers during king season. practicing catch and release using bait has a direct affect on mortality of king salmon entering the river to spawn. The more people use bait

to catch kings and practice catch and release for sport or selection of a desired king decreases the number of kings reaching spawning grounds. We have to reduce the mortality rate of kings to increase future escapement goals

PROPOSED BY: Mike Priebe	(EF-F16-154)
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