

PROPOSAL 116

5 AAC 29.140. Size limits, possession, and landing requirements.

Require retention of king salmon caught during periods of nonretention to be retained if they are deemed too injured to be released and set price at one dollar for selling retained fish, as follows:

Whereas King salmon taken as bycatch during a closed season may be too injured to survive, the release of an obviously injured fish constitutes waste of a valuable resource. Such waste serves no useful purpose. When a king salmon is deemed unsalvageable by the fisher, said fish may be retained and sold for a price to the fisher of one dollar. The remainder of the commercial value of said fish shall accrue to the State of Alaska.

Such a provision would prevent waste, and the minimal compensation would prevent false claims by the fisher. I live near a hub for troll fishing and hear first-hand the anguish that fishers feel when they release a fish that will likely die as evidenced by excessive bleeding.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Issue: Waste of king salmon taken as bycatch during troll fishery openings for other species

PROPOSED BY: Ralph Wells

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