

PROPOSAL 139

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Prohibit snagging within Don D. Statter harbor, as follows:

For the safety of our patrons, I ask that the board consider prohibiting snagging on and around CBJ Docks and Harbors property within Statter Harbor. Please see proposal below:

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

(d) In the Juneau vicinity: in the waters that are adjacent to the Juneau City and Borough road system to a distance one-quarter mile offshore:

(1) rainbow and cutthroat trout, in combination, must be no less than 14 inches and no greater than 22 inches in length;

(2) the bag and possession limit for Dolly Varden is two fish;

(3) in the waters of Auke Bay, east of a line from Waydelich (Wadleigh) Creek to an ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately one-quarter mile south of the mouth of Auke Creek,

(A) sport fishing for sockeye salmon is closed;

(B) Dolly Varden may be taken only from June 1 - March 31;

(C) snagging or attempting to snag is prohibited within a 200-yard radius seaward of ADF&G regulatory markers located approximately 200 feet downstream of the Auke Creek weir; a fish hooked anywhere other than the mouth must be released immediately back into the water;

(D) snagging or attempting to snag is prohibited on the docks, launch ramps, shoreline property, and on the water within Don D. Statter Harbor;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations allow snagging in Auke Bay except for a small area around Auke Creek. In 2021 Juneau Docks and Harbors extended the Statter Harbor floats to accommodate whale watching vessels and tourism in Auke Bay into an area commonly used by locals for snagging King salmon in a terminal fishery. Fisherman casting heavy snagging hooks from the shore towards the docks has created a safety concern for CBJ Harbors, patrons, vessels, and the 220,000 tourists who used the area in 2023. There have been several incidents where a vessel or person has been hit by a snagging hook since the construction of these docks. We have posted "no snagging" signs in the area, but the practice continues because we have no way to enforce the rule. We in no way want to prohibit fishing in general in the area, just the method of snagging.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. I did not

PROPOSED BY: CBJ Docks and Harbors

(EF-F24-007)
