

PROPOSAL 142

5 AAC 47.023. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Open Ketchikan Creek to sport fishing year-round and establish bag and possession limits for king salmon, as follows:

5 AAC 47.023(i)(6) is amended to read:

...

- (6) in Ketchikan Creek, excluding City Park Ponds,
 - (A) only unbaited, single-hook, artificial lures may be used;
 - (B) sport fishing is allowed **year round** [ONLY FROM SEPTEMBER 15 - MAY 31];
 - (C) the bag and possession limit for salmon, other than king salmon,
 - (i) 16 inches or greater in length, is two fish in combination;
 - (ii) less than 16 inches in length, is 10 fish in combination;
 - (D) repealed 7/1/2015;
 - (E) **the bag and possession limit for king salmon is,**
 - (i) two fish any size;**
 - (ii) a king salmon taken by a nonresident will not count toward the nonresident annual limit as established by 5 AAC 47.055;**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A seasonal sport fishing closure from June – September has been in regulation since 1986 to allow for broodstock collection that previously occurred at Deer Mountain Hatchery (DMH). In 2013, the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) assumed ownership of the hatchery. King salmon are produced at DMH, though broodstock collection for SSRAA’s king salmon program occurs at Whitman Lake Hatchery. This regulation change would eliminate the need for the department to issue an annual emergency order to open the creek to sport fishing and set limits for king salmon.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F24-176)
