

**PROPOSAL 146**

**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.**

Increase the bag and possession limit for rainbow and cutthroat trout in 108 Creek drainage, as follows:

Change the current special use freshwater regulation for 108 Creek drainage on Prince of Wales Island.

108 Creek Drainage-Including Twin Island Lake and Cavern Lake.

Only unbaited, artificial lures or flies may be used year round. The use of bait is prohibited.

Steelhead: catch and release fishing only, all steelhead caught must be released immediately.

Rainbow and cutthroat trout, in combination, bag and possession limit of 4 fish; no annual limit.

Must be less than 11 inches and no greater than 22 inches in length.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal would include the entire 108 Creek system including Twin Island Lake and Cavern Lake at the headwaters. Cutthroat trout/rainbow trout (trout) are present year round and abundant in this drainage. They are smaller fish, mostly under 15 inches in length. Increasing the harvest level in this lightly used fishery would be beneficial to locals and other anglers. Trout fishing is a great way to introduce young/new anglers to fishing and is a good opportunity for families to get out and spend time outdoors. Increasing the bag limit helps food security, offsets the rising cost of fuel/groceries and is easier to justify spending the day fishing.

Currently, there is a freshwater special regulation for the 108 Creek steelhead run. This would add a line for trout and its new bag limit. It would also clarify/include the Twin Island and Cavern Lakes into the system since 107 Creek runs through those lakes.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.** Yes. The residents of Whale Pass in conjunction with the East PoW AC developed this proposal.

**PROPOSED BY:** East POW AC

(EF-F24-032)

\*\*\*\*\*