

PROPOSAL 151

5 AAC 47.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the fresh waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

and 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.

Modify the nonresident annual limit for king salmon in the freshwaters of the Yakutat management area and the Situk River, as follows:

5 AAC 47.022(c)(1)(C) is amended to read:

...

[THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ESTABLISH, BY EMERGENCY ORDER,] the nonresident annual limit **is two** [FOR] **king salmon, 20** [28] inches or greater in length, [AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 47.055] **and does not count toward the nonresident annual harvest limit established under 5 AAC 47.055**; a harvest record is required for a nonresident as specified in 5 AAC 75.006;

5 AAC 47.023(b)(6)(A) is amended to read:

...

repealed / / ; [A KING SALMON 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH TAKEN BY A NONRESIDENT WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD THAT NONRESIDENT'S ANNUAL HARVEST LIMIT ESTABLISHED UNDER 5 AAC 47.055;]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The nonresident annual limit for king salmon in the fresh waters of the Yakutat Area currently mirrors those established by the provisions of 5 AAC 47.055 *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* which directs the management of Southeast Alaska king salmon sport fishery in marine waters. Under this management plan, nonresident annual limits are established according to the allocation of king salmon to the sport fishery under the terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty and may not be appropriate management measures for king salmon runs in the Yakutat Area freshwaters. The freshwater harvest of king salmon in the Yakutat Area occurring on non-transboundary rivers is not subject to the terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Establishing a nonresident annual limit of two king salmon, 20 inches or greater, provides a consistent management regime while continuing to limit the harvest potential for nonresident anglers on these relatively small king salmon systems. This would not impact the department's ability to use emergency order authority to restrict the sport fishery for conservation purposes.

This would remove the special provision for the Situk River which currently directs the department not to apply the nonresident annual limit established under 5 AAC 47.055 to the Situk River. Due to the small run size and large proportion of nonresident anglers on the Situk River, applying a nonresident annual limit allows for a controlled harvest opportunity. This would apply the nonresident annual limit of 2 king salmon over 20 inches to the Situk River unless otherwise called for under 5 AAC 30.365 *Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River King Salmon Management Plan*.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F24-173)
