

PROPOSAL 85

55.022 General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area.

Modify the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, as follows:

5 AAC 55.022 (a) (3)

3) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish, of which only three fish per day and six [THREE] in possession may be coho salmon; no size limit

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulations in place read as follows in section 3 of the code:

(3) salmon, other than king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag limit of six fish; possession limit of 12 fish, of which only three fish per day and in possession may be coho salmon; no size limit;

I believe the possession limit should be increased because the coho that are harvested by sport are predominantly terminal (hatchery) fish. Additionally, a high percentage of our clientele base is resident fishermen that are harvesting for their winter supply of salmon and book multiple day trips to capitalize on 2-day possession limits. Current regulations require a return to port which is in excess of 70 miles typically. Our company did approximately 120 days' worth of overnight or remote lodge stays last season as these types of trips are the most financially viable for Alaskans. A single day possession limit seems to make these trips almost punitive because there is not a return to port.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Consulted ADFG Staff for information.

PROPOSED BY: Raymond Nix

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