

PROPOSAL 145 – 5 AAC 77.174. Waters closed to personal use fishing. Repeal the regulation that prohibits the taking of northern pike in the Tanana River drainage personal use fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 77.174(a) is repealed:

(a) **Repealed** / / [WATERS OF THE TANANA RIVER DRAINAGE ARE CLOSED TO THE PERSONAL USE TAKING OF PIKE ABOVE THE MOUTH OF THE KANTISHNA RIVER].

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Northern pike incidentally caught in the Subdistrict 6-C personal use salmon fishery cannot be retained and must be returned to the water dead or alive. The current regulations are inconsistent with the subsistence regulations in the surrounding areas, which allow incidentally caught northern pike to be retained. Available personal use incidental harvest data from Subdistrict 6-C (personal use area) shows that from 2004 through 2013, fishermen have reported the incidental catch of a total of 12 northern pike. Therefore, it is likely few northern pike are encountered in the personal use fishery. The stock of northern pike inhabiting this area is not believed to be in danger of overharvest, and there is no biological concern if retention of northern pike was allowed in this area at the current levels of incidental catch.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F15-029)
