

PROPOSAL 192 - 5 AAC 57.122. Special Provisions for the seasons bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Middle Section of the Kenai River Drainage Area.
Shorten the Kenai River coho season by closing October 31, as follows.

Lower Kenai River Mainstem

September 1 - October 31, 3 coho per day

November 1 - June 30 No retention of coho salmon

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently fishing for coho salmon in the Kenai River is allowed downstream of Skilak Lake July 1 - November 30. There is a growing fishery in the middle Kenai River during the later part of the coho salmon season. Many of these late arriving coho salmon spawn in the area from Bings Landing upstream to Skilak Lake and they do not have adequate protection in this area during a time of year when the water flow drops drastically which in turns exposes the areas that they are congregating in. Simply moving the season closing date to October 31 would go a long ways to protect these coho stocks. With more anglers enjoying the fall fishing season it seems prudent to do what we can to ensure the sustainability of the late arriving Kenai River coho.

PROPOSED BY: Kenai River Professional Guide Association

(EF-F16-146)
