

**PROPOSAL 66 – 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.** Repeal closed water provisions for sport fishing for salmon and reduce bag and possession limits within the Kodiak Road Zone, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022(b)(1) is amended to read:

(b)....

(1) .....

(A) **repealed** / /**2017** [ALL DRAINAGES ON THE KODIAK ROAD ZONE FLOWING INTO CHINIAK BAY, EXCLUDING THE BUSKIN RIVER DRAINAGE AND KALSIN POND, UPSTREAM FROM THE CHINIAK HIGHWAY ARE CLOSED TO SPORT FISHING FOR SALMON FROM AUGUST 1 – SEPTEMBER 15, EXCEPT THAT THE AMERICAN AND OLDS RIVERS ARE OPEN TO SPORT FISHING FOR KING SALMON FROM JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31];

...

**(X) in all fresh and salt waters within the Kodiak Road Zone, from September 16 – December 31, the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is one fish, except that in the following stocked waters the bag and possession limit for coho salmon, 20 inches or greater in length, is two fish:**

**(i) Monashka Creek and Pillar Creek;**

**(ii) Mission Beach: all waters between ADF&G regulatory markers at Shahafka Cove;**

**(iii) Mill Bay: all waters between ADF&G regulatory markers;**

**(iv) Monashka Bay: all waters west of a line from Termination Point to Miller Point.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Current regulations aimed at conserving Kodiak Road Zone coho salmon runs while maintaining opportunity for anglers were established in 1996. Recent declining trends in road zone coho salmon escapements and increased sport harvests indicate that revised measures are necessary to sustain yields and stabilize escapements. Although historical records of coho salmon migration timing show that about 50% of the run occurs by mid-September, the upriver closed waters from August 1 – September 15 in road zone drainages without lakes (13 total) have provided an inadequate buffer for coho salmon escapements, since nearly all fish migrating inriver during the temporary closure period remain susceptible to harvest when those waters are re-opened. Substituting the current closed waters restriction with a bag limit reduction from 2 to 1 coho salmon midway through the runs will more effectively conserve inriver escapements while maintaining angling opportunity for the entire seasonal duration of the sport fishery. The only other salmon species affected by repeal of the August 1 – September 15 upriver closure is pink salmon. There is little sport angler interest in harvesting pink salmon as shown by the department’s Statewide Harvest Survey and historically large escapements of pink salmon in Kodiak road zone streams.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F16-116)  
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**PROPOSAL 67 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.** Decrease the rockfish sport fishery bag and possession limits in Chiniak Bay and Marmot Bay, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(b)....

**(X) in the waters of Chiniak Bay and Marmot Bay, west of a line from Cape Chiniak to Pillar Cape and east of a line from Head Point on Afognak Island (57° 59.67' N. lat., 152° 46.75' W. long.) to Dolphin Point (57° 59.15' N. lat., 152° 43.40' W. long.) on Whale Island and from Bird Point (57° 55.30' N. lat., 152° 47.50' W. long.) on Whale Island to Inner Point (57° 54.05' N. lat., 152° 47.75' W. long.) on Kodiak Island,**

**(A) the bag limit for rockfish is three fish per day and six in possession, of which only two fish per day and four in possession may be nonpelagic rockfish, and only one fish per day and two in possession may be yelloweye rockfish; no size limit;**

**(B) charter vessel operators and crewmembers may not retain rockfish while clients are on board the vessel.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Recent saltwater logbook catch statistics for chartered sport fishing vessels and Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department)

Statewide Harvest Survey estimates of total rockfish harvests show a steady trend of increasing exploitation of pelagic (black, dark, and dusky) rockfish in Kodiak Area waters, particularly near the city of Kodiak in Chiniak and Marmot bays. Between 2008 and 2014 the total rockfish sport harvest approximately doubled from 15,596 to 29,733 fish. A reduction of the rockfish bag limit from 10 fish to 5 fish in 2011 has failed to stabilize the sport harvest of these long lived species. Black rockfish have a known maximum age of 56 years, and may have as many as 40 age classes within a single population. Limited stock assessment tools include charter guide logbooks, the Statewide Harvest Survey and department surveys. These tools are being used to develop an estimate of abundance and productivity of local rockfish populations. While these assessment tools are being developed to provide a biological based total allowable catch for rockfish, a more conservative bag limit will level the current upward harvest trend and help ensure the long term sustainability of the resource, while maintaining angler opportunity to harvest rockfish.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F16-117)  
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**PROPOSAL 68 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.** Close the Buskin River drainage, from lake outlet to Bridge #2, to sport fishing April 20–June 1, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022.(b) (I) All moving waters of Buskin Drainage from lake outlet to Bridge #2 closed to sport fishing April 20-June 1st.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to address incidental and intentional catching of spawning steelhead/rainbow trout on the Buskin River Drainage. No one knows how many steelhead are actually in this system, there is little to no known information on abundance of this fish population. It is a unique resource that should be managed very conservatively in conjunction with the statewide sustainable trout abundance policy 5 AAC 75.222.

**PROPOSED BY:** Stig Yngve (EF-F16-027)  
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**PROPOSAL 69 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.** Allow only single hook lures in Kodiak fresh waters, as follows:

5 AAC 64.022.(a)(15) In Kodiak Area freshwaters, only single hook lures/hooks/ flies may be used.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to address the use of treble hooks versus single hooks on gear used in Kodiak Management Area freshwaters. This is an issue of importance because it is directly related to mortality rates on sport caught salmon and trout. The lure manufacturing companies like Blue Fox that makes Pixies and Vibrax lures are already providing a single hook in their lure packages anyway and ultimately encouraging it w. Numerous hooking mortality studies show that treble hooks have a correspondingly higher rate of

mortality on sport caught fish, and no lower rate of fish lost when hooked. Ultimately a ban on treble hooks in fresh water would result in a similar amount of fish caught and harvested and more fish caught and released alive and well, benefitting both man and fish.

**PROPOSED BY:** Stig Yngve (EF-F16-028)

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**PROPOSAL 70 - 5 AAC 64.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for the Kodiak Area.** Prohibit use of bait in fresh waters of Kodiak Archipelago from October 1- August 15, as follows:

5 ACC 64.022.(a) (14) Use of bait prohibited in all freshwaters of Kodiak Archipelago from October 1-August 15

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I would like to address the issue of bait use in Kodiak freshwaters during salmon and steelhead season. Numerous hooking mortality studies show bait use to be a crucial factor in fish increased fish mortality . This is important because wild King salmon stocks on all Kodiak drainages are a stock of ongoing concern and are they highly responsive to bait. No known steelhead population on Kodiak has more than 8,000 steelhead while most systems have fewer than 500. These fish are also highly responsive to bait, especially during Coho fishing season. In the name of conservation -minded management and in accordance with statewide sustainable trout abundance policy, bait use should be strongly considered in managing of freshwater fish species.

**PROPOSED BY:** Stig Yngve (EF-F16-029)

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