

PROPOSAL 171

5 AAC 57.120. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the Kenai River Drainage Area.

Allow anglers to fish downstream of the Soldotna Bridge after taking a limit of coho salmon as follows:

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...

(4) salmon, other than king salmon,

(A) 16 inches or greater in length, as follows:

(i) sockeye, pink, and chum salmon may be taken from January 1 - December 31;

(ii) coho salmon may be taken in the Lower Section only from July 1 - November 30 and in the Middle Section only from July 1 - October 31; a person after taking and retaining a bag limit of coho salmon 16 inches or greater in length from the Kenai River may continue to sport fish [ONLY FROM THE SOLDOTNA BRIDGE UPSTREAM TO THE ADF&G REGULATORY MARKERS AT THE OUTLET OF SKILAK LAKE]; notwithstanding the provision of this sub-subparagraph (a)(4)(A)(ii), coho salmon may not be taken from November 1 - November 30 in the Lower Section from the Bings Landing boat launch upstream to an ADF&G regulatory marker located at the outlet of Skilak Lake;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently once an angler has retained a bag limit of coho salmon from the Kenai River (July 1 – November 30) they may not continue to sport fish if below the Soldotna Bridge. If they cross the Soldotna bridge and are above it they may continue to sport fish for trout after retaining a bag limit of coho salmon.

I propose that this regulation be made consistent river wide, and anglers be allowed to continue to sport fish for trout after retaining a bag limit of coho salmon below the bridge, as they are allowed to above the bridge to the regulatory markers at the outlet of Skilak lake. This would allow anglers in the lower river below the bridge the same opportunity offered to those above the bridge and create a consistent regulation with less room for confusion or misinterpretation.

PROPOSED BY: Eric Loomis

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