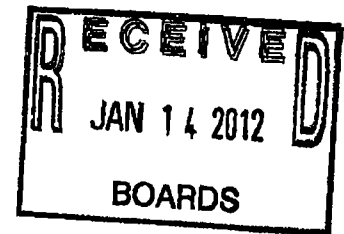




RC25



We would like to comment on PROPOSAL 113-5aac71.010.

This proposal recommends prohibiting catch and release fishing for salmon on the Kanektok and Arolik Rivers. Escapement numbers for salmon are below normal but sport fishing and specifically catch and release is not the problem.

Prohibiting catch and release sport fishing for salmon will increase the number of salmon that are killed by sport fisherman. It will not decrease salmon mortality.

Dave Duncan and Sons is an Alaskan Sport fishing business that practices catch and release sport fishing. We have been on the Kanektok River since 1979. Our guests do not take any fish home at the end of their stay. If they were required to kill their catch each day until they reached their limit the result would be hundreds more fish being harvested each week.

If knotted landing nets are a problem perhaps the native Village of Quinhagak should consider a proposal to prohibit knotted landing nets.

We have also witnessed salmon being dragged up on gravel bars and being kicked back into the water. This is very disturbing to us as well. Perhaps it is time to consider a new regulation that prohibits fish that are going to be released from being removed from the water. This would help to solve the mishandling of fish problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,

Dave Duncan and Sons