

RC 29

To: Board of Fisheries 907 465 6094fax
Attn: Monica Wellard, Executive Director
PO Box 115526
Juneau AK 99811-5526

I write in support of the 2013 proposal # 234, which will ban in Alaskan sport fisheries, fresh and salt waters, the use of lead weights.

It is interesting that some Alaskans lag behind in the science associated with this matter of using lead. Sportsmen and the industry have banned lead shot upon learning of the adverse effect to wildlife ingesting small lead pellets. Current availability of alternatives for lead free fishing tackle seems a minor argument to continue to make use (abusively to wildlife) of a toxic material. The tackle market will move to demand for use. Use ought to be demanded by citizens who become knowledgeable concerning the ill effects of lead on humans and wildlife.

Get the lead out, those of you sport fisher-people who resist reading, conversing, listening, or learning. This particular human only motivated outlook needs to be changed, like it or not. The practice of using lead weight tackle is toxic. And from this elder citizen's viewpoint, who has fished in the NW Cascades and Alaska fresh water, the continued use of lead is just "old fashion" and needs to be left to history.

Board of Fisheries, kindly do your part to relegate lead tackle to history.

Respectfully,

Patricia Wherry

5785 Glacier Way #37

Juneau, Alaska 99801