

**PROPOSAL 22 - 5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet – Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.** Eliminate harvest record requirement for Alaska residents for king salmon in Lower Cook Inlet marine fishery south of Anchor Point Light, as follows:

**5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area** (a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this section, the following are the seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and special provisions for finfish and shellfish in the Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area: (1) king salmon: may be taken from January 1 - December 31; bag and possession limit of two fish; no size limit; an annual harvest limit of five king salmon 20 inches or greater in length, except as provided in (c) of this section; a harvest record is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.006, **except a harvest record shall not be required of Alaska residents for king salmon harvested in the Lower Cook Inlet recreational troll king salmon fishery south of Anchor Point Light (59°46.14' N. lat.),**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Eliminate the harvest record requirement for king salmon harvested from marine waters south of Anchor Point Light in the Lower Cook Inlet recreational salt water troll fishery.

The Lower Cook Inlet recreational salt water troll fishery harvests primarily “feeder” king salmon which do not originate from Cook Inlet spawning aggregations.

As mounting scientific data confirms, the Lower Cook Inlet recreational salt water troll fishery does not pose a threat to conservation of returning Cook Inlet stocks-of-concern. The harvest record requirement is neither a very effective nor reliable means for advancing sustainable management of Cook Inlet king salmon stocks of concern.

In addition to not providing any measurable benefit, the harvest record requirement is unnecessarily burdensome on the Lower Cook Inlet salt water king salmon sport fishery.

In light of the above, the harvest record requirement for king salmon harvested from marine waters south of Anchor Point Light in the Lower Cook Inlet recreational salt water troll fishery is viewed as unnecessary paperwork and should be eliminated.

**PROPOSED BY:** Pete Zimmerman, spokesman for Cook Inlet Recreational Fishermen

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