

EXPLANATION IN SUPPORT OF RC 181

Submitted by KAFC, KRSA, KRPGA

RC 192

SEG = 2,800 - 5,600 (75cm mid-eye to tail fork and longer)

OEG = 3,900 – 6,600 (75 cm mid-eye to tail fork and longer)

LOWER RIVER (Downstream from the lower end of the Slikok Sanctuary, Jan 1- June 30)

Season starts: **no bait and allow retention of one fish no longer than 36”.**

Pre-season forecast:

As long as the **pre-season forecast (sonar count plus expected harvest)** is projected to be **within the OEG** the season by regulation will open with **no bait and allow retention of one fish no longer than 36”**. The intention is that, over time, escapements will range throughout the OEG.

1. Pre-season forecast below the SEG, the Dept will close to fishing.
2. Pre-season forecast is above the SEG but below OEG the Dept may choose to close to fishing entirely or merely close to retention providing limited fishing opportunity until an in-season assessment is made.
3. Pre-season forecast is within the OEG or above, the season starts per regulation with no bait and retention on one fish (36”). However, if the Dept is concerned with the forecast they would be cautious. If that projected escapement is in the lower end of the OEG they may choose to limit retention by EO until they have an in-season forecast.

In-season assessment:

1. Run size below below OEG: fishery closed.
2. Run within OEG but low levels, the Dept may choose to restrict retention.
3. Run in mid-to upper range of OEG, retention remains (36 inch maximum), no bait.
4. **Projected run size exceeds the OEG: Dept has option to 1) allow bait and/or allow retention of all sizes of fish.**

MIDDLE RIVER (Upstream from the lower end of the Slikok Creek Sanctuary, January 1-July 31).

Bait is not allowed and allow retention of one fish no longer than 36”. This extends throughout the season.

Preseason: See 1 & 2 above

In-season assessment:

1. Run size below below OEG: fishery closed.
2. Run within OEG but low levels, the Dept may choose to restrict retention.
3. Run in mid-to upper range of OEG, retention remains (36 inch maximum), no bait.
4. If projected run size exceeds OEG no further liberalization in this section.