NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES ON SPECIFIED ANADROMOUS WATERS IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game proposes to change regulations dealing with waters important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish, as required by AS 16.05.871.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with waters important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish, including the following:

5 AAC 95.011 is proposed to be changed as follows:

The Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes and Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes (atlas and catalog), which are adopted by reference in 5 AAC 95.011, will be revised and updated.

Several revisions are proposed to be made to the atlas and catalog. The list of rivers, lakes, and streams will be updated, including additions, deletions, and changes to the legal descriptions of many of these waters. Minor revisions will be made to the introduction of the catalog. Species-specific information will be used in place of undifferentiated species information wherever possible.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Brian Blossom, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, River Center 514 Funny River Road, Soldotna, AK 99669. Additionally, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 260-5992 or by e-mail to dfg.hab.anadromous@alaska.gov. The comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. AKST, March 20, 2020.

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Brian Blossom by email or at the physical address above. The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on http://awc.adfg.alaska.gov. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game may, but is not required to, answer written questions received after the 10-day cut-off date and before the end of the comment period.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Brian Blossom at (907) 714-2481 no later than Tuesday, March 17, 2020 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System at https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Default.aspx or by contacting Brian Blossom, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 514 Funny River Road, Soldotna, AK 99669, Phone: (907) 714 – 2481, email: brian.blossom@alaska.gov.

A copy of the materials proposed for adoption by reference for five regions of Alaska (Southeastern, Southcentral, Southwestern, Arctic, and Interior) are available for inspection and copying at: the ADF&G offices in Anchorage at 333 Raspberry Rd., and in Fairbanks at 1300 College Rd.; the Alaska Resources Library in Anchorage; and the State Library in Juneau. The ADF&G offices in Bethel, Cordova, Craig, Delta Junction, Dillingham, Douglas, Dutch Harbor, Glennallen, Haines, Homer, Ketchikan, King Salmon, Kodiak, Nome, Palmer, Sand Point, Sitka, Soldotna, Tok, and Wrangell have copies of the proposed changes for their local region.

Electronic equivalents of the review documents and the atlas maps are also available through the ADF&G website at: http://awc.adfg.alaska.gov

After the public comment period ends, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may vary from that of the proposed regulations. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected.

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05.020; AS 16.05.871

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05.871

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are <u>not</u> expected to require an increased appropriation.

Ben Mulligan Deputy Commissioner Alaska Department of Fish and Game