



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS
Office of the Director

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November 4, 2025

Madam Chair Marit Carlson-Van Dort
Alaska Board of Fish
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811

Madam Chair and Board of Fish Members:

AWT recognizes that regulations are developed by the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game through the public process to support management plans. Management plans rely upon public compliance with regulations to achieve success. Enforcement is a crucial element needed to ensure long-term compliance with regulations by the public. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers request the board recognize that the division has limited resources and manpower, and any new regulation scheme or area restrictions may place an additional burden on AWT. When the board considers proposals having to do with allocation or biological concerns, AWT is generally neutral in position and will not have a written comment.

Upon review of the proposals for the 2025 Fairbanks meeting AWT provides the following comments for consideration:

Proposal 24 seeks to repeal the designated youth fishing days for Arctic Grayling in the Chena River.

AWT is neutral on this proposal as we support opportunities for youth with reduced competition. The current regulation does at times cause an enforcement dilemma for Troopers when adults are teaching or assisting a youth in fishing, and the amount of assistance they provide can put them in violation of the regulation. For example, when an adult is observed casting, they would be in violation, but their intent is to cast so that they youth can reel it in.

Proposal 33 prohibits the retention of King salmon when subsistence fishing with beach seine in the Pilgrim River.

AWT is neutral on this proposal but would add that if passed, this proposal would prevent any King salmon from being harvested by rod and reel and then claimed as being harvested with a beach seine, therefore making enforcement easier.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Derek DeGraaf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Derek" and last name "DeGraaf" clearly distinguishable.

Captain Derek DeGraaf
Alaska Wildlife Troopers