

## **PROPOSAL 154**

### **5 AAC 39.155. Seine drums unlawful.**

Allow the use of purse seine drums as follows:

#### **Delete this section**

### **[5 AAC 39.155. Seine drums unlawful**

It shall be unlawful to have mounted aboard any seine vessel a seine drum or reel around which a seine can be coiled or rolled.]

#### **What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?**

##### Existing Law

#### **Sec. 16.10.120. Use of drum or reel in operation of purse seine.**

A person may not use, employ, or operate a drum or reel around which a purse seine is coiled, rolled, or looped for purposes of taking or removing fish from a body of water located on or over land or tideland owned by the state or over which the state has jurisdiction. This section does not prevent the use of power blocks or the use of a reel mounted on a seine skiff to haul in or let out the separate purse seine lead which is temporarily connected to the purse seine proper, as these terms are generally employed or used in the fishing industry. DELETE THE UNDERLINED PHRASE

### **5 AAC 39.155. Seine drums unlawful**

It shall be unlawful to have mounted aboard any seine vessel a seine drum or reel around which a seine can be coiled or rolled.

##### History

The law banning seine drums dates back to the late 1950's when most of the fishing fleet was in the process of converting from hand pull seines to the new modern Power block systems, also full pursing was the only method used. The average time to haul back the net was 30-60 minutes and a typical day for the average seiner was 10-12 sets. In 1959 a group of seiners also converted their boats to using seine drums, this dramatically changed the efficiency of the process and could feasibly double the number of sets compared to the power block equipped boats. The Law was introduced in 1959 to level the playing field

##### Why would I like this regulation changed?

The fishery has evolved continuously over the years since 1959 and technology has made the law banning drums antiquated. In today's seine fleet the power block and drum have the same level of efficiency, power block equipped boat can make the same sets per day and in some instances even more than a boat equipped with a drum.

The main reason I would like to change this regulation is the safety aspect. Power blocks can weigh up to 1000 lbs. and having the hanging over a crew piling gear is an incredibly risk of fish, rings, heavy leads falling on individuals below causing injury. As a business owners any injury in not acceptable and it's our job to provide the safest work place possible and I greatly believe that using a drum would lessen the risk for overhead injuries.

Aging and more seasoned crew members are being replaced with young more competitive high speed paced.

**PROPOSED BY:** Jason Burke

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