

RC # 30



Enriching our Native way of life

RESOLUTION 13 – 05

OPPOSING PERMIT STACKING IN UGASHIK AND EGEGIK DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC) is a for-profit corporation created by Congress pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to represent the economic, social and cultural interests of the Alaska Native people from the Bristol Bay region; and

WHEREAS, the Bristol Bay region is highly dependent on the commercial salmon fishery; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries is considering Bristol Bay finfish regulation at its February, 2013 meeting that would allow permit holders of two Bay CFEC set gillnet permits to stack their permits and operate extra gillnet gear in the Ugashik and Egegik districts; and

WHEREAS, the proposed rule change would result in an even greater number of set gillnet permits being owned by fishermen who reside outside of Bristol Bay; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fisheries should not, as a matter of sound policy and state constitutional principles, enact regulatory changes that would cause economic distress to local fishermen and Bristol Bay's coastal communities; and


WHEREAS, BBNC requests that the Board of Fisheries not modify the present permit stacking rule as the current system is equitable and working well; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change will not reduce the number of permits, and modifications to the current system could cause undue economic hardship to the Bristol Bay residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change is so significant that it rises to a restructuring proposal that will result in additional costs to the region, individuals and the agencies themselves.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Bristol Bay Native Corporation Board of Directors that it opposes set gillnet stacking proposals that will restructure the Bristol Bay fishery in ways that would increase the capital cost of the fishery to resident fishermen.

ADOPTED this 22nd day of February, 2013 at Anchorage, Alaska.


Joseph L. Chythlook, Chairman


April Ferguson, Corporate Secretary