

PC/AC Comments on Proposals 27 and 28 from Bristol Bay Finfish

The following advisory committee reports and public comments were received at the Bristol Bay Finfish Meeting, December 2-8, 2015.

- Lake Iliamna Fish and Game Advisory Committee minutes (formerly AC 4)
- Lower Bristol Bay Fish and Game Advisory Committee minutes (formerly AC 5)
- Nushagak Fish and Game Advisory Committee minutes (formerly AC 7)
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (formerly PC 56) – **please see RC 40 from this current meeting for a revised position.**
- Kvichak Setnetters Association (formerly PC 71)

Lake Iliamna Fish and Game Advisory Committee
November 26, 2015
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order: Randy Alvarez - 11:40am, 10-26-15
- II. Roll Call:
Members Present: Joel Jacko, Elijah Eknaty, Tim Anelon, Tinny Hedlund, Randy Alvarez, George Alexie, Billy Trefon, Lyle Wilder
Members Absent: Jim Tilly, Greg Anelon
Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 6
- III. Approval of Agenda: Tinny moves, Lyle seconds
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: From meeting date:
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Travis Lons, Travis Elison
- VI. Guests Present: Several by teleconference - sorry spelling may be incorrect - Molly Dishner, Ian Fo, Jason Dye (sport Fish), Gean Sandon, Gala Hoseth, Courtney Carty, Nancy Marfly
- VII. Old Business: none
- VIII. New Business: Comments on Proposals to follow



<p align="center">BRISTOL BAY FINFISH</p> <p align="center">DECEMBER 2-9, 2015</p> <p align="center">ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES</p>			
<p align="center">Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form</p>			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
BOF	27	<p>Require that a CFEC permit holder's name displayed on a set gillnet site marking sign complies with the same character size marking requirements for permit numbers. (This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)</p>	
Support Support as Amended Oppose No Action	0	8	
BOF	29	<p>Allow a set gillnet permit holder to operate and deploy gillnet gear seaward of the permit holder's own set gillnet, and within the permit holder's setnet site.</p>	
Support Support as Amended Oppose No Action	8	0	
BOF	30	<p>Change the description of set gillnet exemptions that allow operations where beaches at mean low tide are not connected to either exposed land or land not covered at high tide, by deleting references to regulatory markers.</p>	
Support Support as Amended Oppose No Action			no action due to 31
BOF	31	<p>Change the area registration requirements to require district registration prior to fishing in a district in Bristol Bay.</p>	
Support Support as Amended Oppose No Action	7	1	<p>Opted to vote on 31 as most favorable of 30,31,32,35,37,41 due to similar proposals. felt that earlier registration for districts would encourage drifters to decide earlier where they were going to be for the season, Lyle opposed the idea</p>



Lower Bristol Bay Fish and Game A.C.

9/28/15

Teleconference

- I. Call to Order: Time by Mitch Seybert 12:35
- II. Roll Call:
List of all members
- 1) Mitch Seybert, Chair, Pilot Point, 12/2015
 - 2) Eddie Clark, Vice Chair, Undesignated-Naknek, term expired 12/2014
 - 3) Hattie Albecker, Undesignated-Ugashik, term expired 12/2014
 - 4) Eric Beeman, Egegik, term expired 12/2014
 - 5) Roland Briggs, Ugashik, 12/2015
 - 6) Tom Bursch, Undesignated-Homer, 06/2017
 - 7) Emil Christiansen, Port Heiden, term expired 12/2014
 - 8) John Christiansen, Port Heiden, 06/2017
 - 9) Bob Dreezen, Undesignated-Ugashik, term expired 12/2014
 - 10) Timothy Enright, Ugashik, 12/2015
 - 11) Gerda Kosbruk, Port Heiden, 12/2015
 - 12) Mark Kosbruk, Undesignated-Port Heiden, 06/2017
 - 13) Myra Olsen, Egegik, 12/2015
 - 14) Kim Rice, Undesignated-Girdwood, 06/2017
 - 15) Tracy Vrem, Undesignated-Chugiak, 06/2017

Members Present: Mitch Sybert, Myra Olsen, Roland Briggs, Tim Enright, Gerda Kosbruk, Mark Kosbruk, Kim Rice, John Christinsen, Eric Beeman; Hattie Albecker.

Members Absent: Robert Dreeszen (excused for medical reason); Eddie Clark, Emil Christiansen, Tom Bursch, Tracy Vrem.

Number Needed For Quorum on AC: 8

Number Needed for Quorum on AC: 8

- III. Approval of Agenda: Myra moves to approve agenda, Hattie 2nds, Unanimous approval.
Click here to enter text
- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from 1/27/2015 meeting and 4/6/15 Meeting:
Myra Moves to approve minutes, Mark Kosbruk 2nds, no discussion, unanimous approval Click here to enter text
- V. Fish and Game Staff Present: Bob Murphy & Travis Ellison, Com-Fish, Taryn O'Connor-Brito and Kristy Tibbles, Board Support.
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- VI. Guests: Victoria Briggs, Courtenay Carty & Gayla Hoseth, BBNA, Chuck McCallum, Lake and Peninsula Borough.
Click here to enter textClick here to enter text
- VII. Elections for 3 undesignated seats previously held by Hattie Albecker, Bob Dreeszen, and Eric Beeman:

Click here to enter Name of AC. Page 1



Hattie states that she will not run again
Myra Olson nominates Charles Oblama
Hattie Albecker nominates Maurice "Mike" Enright
Roland Briggs nominates Bob Dreeszen
Tim Enright nominates Gus Lamero
Eric Beeman nominates himself

Election Results:
Charles Oblama Replaces Bob Dreeszen
Maurice "Mike" Enright replaces Hattie Albecker
Eric Beeman is re-elected

AC Members seated in attendance after election:
Myra Olson, Roland Briggs, Mitch seybert, Tim Enright, Gerda Kosbruk, Mark Kosbruk, Kim Rice, John Christiansen, and Eric Beeman (9 total which satisfied quorum).

- VIII. Elections For Officer Positon of Secretary:
Mitch Seybert Nominates Myra Olson
Myra is elected secretary with Unanimous support of the committee
- IX. Staff Reports:
Travis Ellison Com-Fish presents a short Bristol Bay season summary
Bob Murphy Com-Fish presents a short Area M season summary
- X. New Business: Comments on Proposals for the Bristol Bay Fin Fish Meeting:

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This space may be used to record minutes



BRISTOL BAY FINFISH DECEMBER 2-9, 2015 ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES			
Mandatory- Please Summarize Your Proposal Comments in this Form			
BOG or BOF	Proposal Number	Proposal Description	
Supports or Opposes?	Number Support	Number Oppose	Comments/Discussion (list Pros and Cons)/Amendments to Proposal
			(Note that Proposals 22-24 are taken up at the end)
BOF	25	Expand district boundary lines.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	9	Roland moves to adopt and Eric seconds. Roland comments that he would have a tough time with moving the Egegik line south. Eric says that he likes the terminal nature of the current regulations and opposes this. Mitch notes that things are working good now and we don't need this. All Oppose.
BOF	26	Create new general fishing sections that are in effect following achievement of escapement goals, or July 17, until July 27.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	9	Myra moves to adopt; Roland seconds. Roland is not in favor and notes that Ugashik would be at a disadvantage because of it's later run timing – a lot of fishing is still going on then. Roland notes that there could be some advantage to spreading out the fleet but he would have to hear a lot more before he could approve. Myra says that general district fishing is bad for the resource. Gerda calls the question. All oppose.
BOF	27	Require that a CFEC permit holder's name displayed on a set gillnet site marking sign complies with the same character size marking requirements for permit numbers. (This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	9	Roland moves to adopt 27 & 28 (as basically the same) and Myra seconds. Roland pointed out that this has come up several cycles and always fails. Mitch says that it is too picky and not needed. Fails with all opposed.
BOF	28	Change the character size requirements for set gillnet marking signs. (This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose	0	9	See action on proposal 27
BOF	29	Allow a set gillnet permit holder to operate and deploy gillnet gear seaward of the permit holder's own set gillnet, and within the permit holder's setnet site.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	9	0	Gerda moves to adopt and Mark seconds. It is noted that this is common practice and accepted. It seems that a new sergeant is reinterpreting something that as been interpreted differently by multiple sergeants going back to the sixties. Victoria notes that it is good for safety. Mitch says he views this as 'cleanup' and is in favor of it as written. Roland called the question and all were in favor.

Click here to enter Name of AC. Page 3



Nushagak Advisory Committee
October 20 & 21, 2015
Dillingham City Council Chambers

I. **Call to Order: 12:34 PM By Chairman Frank Woods.**

II. **Roll Call:**

Members Present: Frank Woods, Chair, Gayla Hoseth, Joe Chythlook (vice Chair) , Lloyd (Tom) O'Connor, Dan Dunaway Secretary , Curt Armstrong, Dennis Andrew, Travis Ball, Glen Wysoki (arr 1:05 pm), Jonathan Forsling (by phone) , Mariano Floresta, Steve Perkins (alt), Jim Woolington (phone) .

Members Absent: Manokotak rep, Luki Akelkok (Ekwok), Chris Carr (Portage), Chris Strub (alt).

Number Needed For Quorum: 8

Full Member list: Attached at the back of these minutes is a list of all members, the seat they occupy, community of residence, and term expiration date.

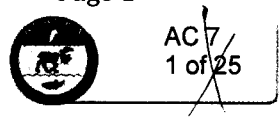
List of User Groups Present: In the meeting on or the AC?
On the AC and in the public attending, most people identify with more than one of the following groups with nearly 100% being subsistence users as well as members other user groups. In no particular order:

- Subsistence fishing and hunting
- Commercial Drift
- Commercial Set
- Trapping
- Sport fishing
- Sport Fishing guide
- Big game guide
- Air Taxi
- BBEDC represented by Gene Sandone by phone

Alternate Steve Perkins was seated with the committed given absences. A quorum was declared.

III. **Approval of Agenda:**

Joe C. Moved to adopt, Travis B. 2nd.
There was a discussion on when to meet to prepare for the Board of Game - consensus was later by teleconference.
Dennis A. asked to add an item IV under new business to discuss CDQ Boundaries.
Gayla H. asked to add a line Public Comments to Agenda after Elections. AC agreed by consensus noting usually for these meetings, public members are encouraged and allowed to participated in discussions, especially proposals.
Tom O. expressed concern for several meetings without a Manokotak representative - consensus was to add Item V under New Business titled Vacancies on AC.



BOF	27	Require that a CFEC permit holder's name displayed on a set gillnet site marking sign complies with the same character size marking requirements for permit numbers. (This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)	
X Oppose	0	Unanimous	Tom Move Joe 2nd TO TAKE UP 27 & 28 TOGETHER. Extended discussion on requirements. This has been an occasional topic for set netters. Already a hassle to keep Coast Guard happy with buoy markings and FWP happy with cork/ buoy markings. Signs are not required just Set net permit number and name be present on net. FWP say we much have buoys or corks with the active permit number(s). Signs in some places may address leases but that might not be the permit fishing there at any time. Not needed. Sometimes we have several permit numbers on the corks. How would we fit all 6 inch or 12 inch letters on a buoy ? Get on the phone or VHF.
BOF	28	Change the character size requirements for set gillnet marking signs. (This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)	
X Oppose	0	Unanimous	Tom Move Joe 2nd TO TAKE UP 27 & 28 TOGETHER. See discussion of 27 above.
BOF	29	Allow a set gillnet permit holder to operate and deploy gillnet gear seaward of the permit holder's own set gillnet, and within the permit holder's set net site.	



RC54



PC 71
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Boards Support Section
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811

November 10, 2015

Subject: BOF Comments - Kvichak Setnetters' Association

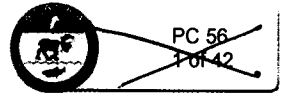
Dear Board Member:

The Kvichak Setnetters' Association (KSA) is comprised of 100+ members who fish sites in the Kvichak sub-district of the Naknek/Kvichak district. Our mission is to provide a unified voice of our members, especially at Board of Fisheries meetings. We work to ensure that set net fishers in the Kvichak section are given fair access to sockeye bound for the Kvichak River. Due to the nature of our district and our location at the end of Bristol Bay, we have unique needs and perspectives on the effective management of our salmon.

Our specific comments on the proposals before you are listed in the table below for your convenience. Please consider our opinions as you form the rules and regulations that govern our fishery.

Proposal	KSA Opinion	Comments/Notes
25, 26	Oppose	Creates additional interception of Kvichak stocks before fish enter Kvichak Section. Late season fish are also important for escapement, both in numbers and spreading out the run.
27, 28	Oppose	Current regulations are adequate.
29	Support	Provides flexibility in operation of legal gear within existing areas of operation. Extreme current often makes a connected 50 fathom net very tight and dangerous, with or without a running line. This proposal would improve safety, quality, and the setnetter's ability to manage gear.
45, 46, 48	Support	KSA supports these proposals regarding permit stacking for setnetters. We approve these proposals as amended. With prices down and processor limits becoming the norm, a single set net permit does not provide sufficient return on investment. It also helps keep family operations together.
47	Oppose	Support permit stacking but not under those restrictions. Sites and permits are planned and often operated as single entities. If a family operation with 4 sites is owned, the stacked permit would be insufficient to fish all available sites.
49	Oppose	75 fathom on a single site would create problems of adequate separation from neighboring sites due to flagging and bowing of net. Could create potential "corking" of neighbors.

2054



**ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
BRISTOL BAY FINFISH
DECEMBER 2-8, 2015**

**Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposals
WRITTEN COMMENTS**

BY

The Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

NOVEMBER 2015



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PROPOSAL 26 – 5 AAC 06.200. Fishing districts and sections.

RECOMMENDATION: OPPOSE (increased interception; allocative between Districts)

BBEDC COMMENTS: BBEDC opposes Proposal 26. The concern would be elevated interception of fish bound for other districts. See map above in Proposal 25 (Figure 9) for reference.

There may also be district allocation changes because of the possible increased interception of fish bound for other districts. This proposal may change salmon catch allocation to the various districts through increased interception.

We agree with the Department’s position to OPPOSE.

PROPOSAL 27 – 5 AAC 39.280. Identification of stationary fishing gear.

RECOMMENDATION: NEUTRAL (SUPPORT PROPOSAL 28)

Require that a CFEC permit holder’s name displayed on a set gillnet site marking sign complies with the same character size marking requirements for permit numbers (*This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.*)

Set net markings signs shall include the name of the permit holder in letters at least 6" high and 1" wide, the same as the vessel name for drift vessels. The permit holder may include a phone number for contact.

BBEDC COMMENTS:

BEDC is Neutral on Proposal 27. BBEDC supports a similar proposal, Proposal 28. There already are number size requirements for the CFEC number, but not the letters of the name. This proposal will specify that the letters of the name appear the same as for the numbers. *Numbers must be at least six inches in height with lines at least one-inch-wide and of a color contrasting with the background.* Some may argue that the CFEC number is identification enough because it is tied to the name of the fisherman operating the gear. The owner or operator of a set gillnet in operation shall have at each end of the set gillnet a red keg, buoy, or cluster of floats, or, in the case of set gillnets anchored to land, shall have a red keg, buoy, or cluster of floats at the outer end of the net. The CFEC number is required on the kegs, buoys, or clusters of floats may bear only a single number - that of the permit holder operating the gear.

This proposal will have state-wide implications. Although the proposal will be probably heard in each area BOF meeting, it will be deliberated on in the March state fin fish meeting. Testimony and written comments can be provided to the BOF for the March meeting.



RC54

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PROPOSAL 28 – 5 AAC 39.280. Identification of stationary fishing gear.

RECOMMENDATION: SUPPORT

Change the character size requirements for set gillnet marking signs, as follows
Insert "twelve inches" where now says "six inches" and add "with lines at least one inch wide."
(This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.)

BBEDC COMMENTS:

BBEDC supports Proposal 28. Proponent cites discrepancy between drift boats and set gillnets. He states that the drift boats and set net skiffs are required to have their Alaska Department of Fish and Game numbers displayed with 12" letters, but shore side set net markings are only required to be six inches. He would like consistency. He also cites that it is difficult to read CFEC numbers on a set net beyond 200 feet.

This proposal will have state-wide implications. Although the proposal will be probably heard in each area BOF meeting, it will be deliberated on in the March state fin fish meeting. Testimony and written comments can be provided to the BOF for the March meeting.

PROPOSAL 29 – 5 AAC 06.335. Minimum distance between units of gear.

RECOMMENDATION: SUPPORT AS AMENDED (include only Egegik District; no extension of offshore set net limit)

Allow a set gillnet permit holder to operate and deploy gillnet gear seaward of the permit holder's own set gillnet, and within the permit holder's set net site, as follows: 5 AAC 06.335 Minimum distance between units of gear needs to include the wording "**Except that a CFEC permit holder may operate seaward of their own set gillnet.**"

BBEDC COMMENTS: BBEDC supports Proposal 29 as amended. We support restricting this proposal to the Egegik District. Other area fishermen should testify if this practice needs to be codified in other districts.

This practice of having a short break between a couple nets of 25 fa each has been done for a while in the Egegik District and has just come to the attention of Public safety. Public Safety is now issuing citations for this practice because the break between these nets is less than 300 feet. We understand that a CFEC permit holder may split their 50 fathoms of net into two 25-fa nets and fish them separately with a short break between them. Under current regulations this practice is illegal; the break needs to be at least 300 feet. This proposal would allow the same permit holder to break up his 50 fathoms of net in to different sized nets and fished closer together than 300 feet apart. This practice has been going on for years; it is not an allocative issue.
