

Serena Aikins-McArthur  
PO Box 274  
Dillingham, AK 99576

RC 020

March 6, 2016

Alaska Board Of Fish  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811

RE: Support for Bristol Bay Proposal #63

Dear Board of Fish Members:

Thank you for taking time to read my letter of support for Bristol Bay Proposal #63. Please allow me to introduce myself, I am a lifelong resident of Alaska and grew up as a commercial set net crewmember on the Clarks Point Beach. I'm originally from Clarks Point and began fishing with my late Grandmother Mary Wassily at the early age of eight. My family's commercial set net site is located on the mud flat area of Clarks Point beach along the Clarks Point bluff.

Being in the mud flat area and having the seaward distance of 500 feet has been a challenge, as the years have passed and the mudflat has seen dramatic change in length and been filled in it has caused my family to lose valuable fishing time. This loss of fishing time is worsened when tides are smaller then 16 feet we are unable to set due to tides being too small. While the sites located above the Clarks Point bluff remain unaffected and continue to fish and earn an income.

I'm in support of extension of the seaward distance for the set netters along the bluff from 500 to 750 feet, as I believe this will ensure that my family and I would be allowed enough water to fish and help stop the loss of income.

My family greatly depends on income earned from the commercial fishing season and this extension will offer an opportunity to continue fishing during these smaller tides. With the declining fish price my family and I have been impacted greatly financially and I can't stress enough what this extension means to me.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter of support and I strongly encourage you to grant the extension as proposed by Alannah Hurley.

Sincerely;

*Serena Aikins-McArthur*

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