

Jared Gross

We the undersigned are in opposition to SEAS submitted proposal 140 to prohibit gillnetting in the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest area which is also supported by a new seine group ANITA seiners made up of Alaska natives. As an Alaska natives we voice our opposition to any native organization supporting reallocation of a resource from one gear group to another, especially one that takes from other native participants. Ironically only 52% of the seine fleet are Alaskan residents compared to over 80% residency in the drift gillnet fishery.

As a resident of Wrangell we carefully considered opportunities near Wrangell when we chose a career in drift gillnetting. Districts 6 and 8 offered many opportunities locally for us. Unfortunately the Chinook fisheries on the Stikine which offered early seasonal opportunities to get some cash flow after a long winter have been cut back entirely. Also access to early Stikine sockeye has been lost to this Chinook conservation effort.

If the proposed McDonald Lake action plan passes, we are facing an additional reduction in fishing opportunities and income. This comes at a crucial time period where most of the gillnet value is accrued for the season. Gillnetters will have an obvious noticeable loss, likely a substantial loss, which combined with the loss of early fisheries, makes me fear for the economic viability of my chosen career.

If we couple these cutbacks with a loss of opportunity at Anita Bay it may very well cut our income by 50% or more. Many times there is very little seine effort in Anita Bay while gillnet participation will have 25 to 35 individual gillnetters fishing the Bay. When there are pinks around sometimes only 4 or 5 seine boats show up divvying up large catches while the rest of the seine fleet is fishing pinks elsewhere. It makes no sense to cut the gillnet fleet fishery opportunities proposed by the seine fleet when their participation is so obviously minimal.

Name <u>Jared Gross</u>	Signature <u>Jared Gross</u>	Vessel <u>New Freedom</u>
Name <u>Harry Churchill</u>	Signature <u>Harry Churchill</u>	Vessel <u>Bruso</u>
Name <u>Eric Herald</u>	Signature <u>E. H.</u>	Vessel <u>Downeast</u>
Name <u>James S. Jenkins</u>	Signature <u>James S. Jenkins</u>	Vessel <u>CHRISTINE</u>
Name <u>Winton J. Davies</u>	Signature <u>W. J. Davies</u>	Vessel <u>Blue Mist</u>
Name <u>Joshua C. Jenkins</u>	Signature <u>Joshua C. Jenkins</u>	Vessel <u>F/V Sylvia</u>
Name <u>FELIX VILLANO</u>	Signature <u>Felix Villano</u>	Vessel <u>FL Stikine Maid</u>
Name <u>Arnold K Balle</u>	Signature <u>Arnold K Balle</u>	Vessel <u>F/V Lady Solway 56788</u>
Name <u>Randy Churchill</u>	Signature <u>Randy Churchill</u>	Vessel <u>F/V DELLAG</u>
Name <u>Brandon Kenfield</u>	Signature <u>Brandon Kenfield</u>	Vessel <u>Danica Lyn</u>

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Name LEEDGRC Signature [Signature] Vessel LEEDGRC

Name Robert Hunt Signature [Signature] Vessel SEA Queen

Name G. I. GUNDERSON Signature G. I. Gunderson Vessel FAV FAIRISH EYES ^{NORTHERN LIGHT}

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