

R.E. DEEP INLET ROTATION

RC153

Dear Board of FISH Members,

My name is Moses P Johnson and was born and raised in Sitka and started fishing at the age of 7
And participated in the salmon seine ,winter troll and longline fisheries for the past 44 years.

In the past week I have been trolling and have not attended the meetings ,but I have been
Listening to the live stream on the radio .After hearing comments on RC153 I felt compelled to
Send in a comment of my own.

As a sitka seiner with a small boat and fish hold I concentrate on fishing Deep Inlet chums
And it's safe to say it is the bread and butter of my seine operation and without the NSRAA
Produced chum there would have been some real tough seasons in the past

However as much as I would personally benefit from the RC153 agreement between USAG and SEAS
I firmly believe the 1-2 gillnet to seine ratio proposed in Deep Inlet is too harsh a change for a harvest
Area that has worked well for both gillnetters and seiners for years.

In addition a major ratio change would have a significant effect on the processors in sitka in
Which one handles most of the gillnet fish and one handles most of the seine fish.

Finally I heard the word compromise come up a lot during testimony and how it was good
For the gillnetters and seiners ,I would also urge the board of fish to compromise with the
SEAS and USAG groups and amend the Deep Inlet portion of the RC153 agreement to a ratio of 1 to 1
Seine to gillnet for the next 3 years as I BELIEVE this will significantly help the seiners while also
Providing opportunity for the gillnet fleet.

Having spent approximately the last 25 years on the sitka AC I can appreciate the hard work
The board of fish members put in and thank you for your time

Moses P Johnson

Sitka, AK