

Alaska Board of Fisheries  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811  
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DATE January 19, 2018

Dear Chairman Jensen and Alaska Board of Fisheries members,

I am a third generation fishermen from Sitka, I have owned a southeast gillnet permit for 30 years and have exclusively fished in Sitka at Deep Inlet for the past 12 years. After 25 years I have recently retired off the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association's (NSRAA) Board of Directors. I am also a current USAG member as well as a past director.

I oppose the USAG and SEAS BOF 2018 Agreement RC 263. This agreement will totally devastate this fishery in Sitka creating unviable opportunity.

Per regulation a 2:1 gillnet:seine is and equal opportunity  
A 1:1 fishery is seiners catching 100% more, a 1:2 gilnet:seine is a seine catch rate of 200% more. So if the seiners are only 1.5% under their range why do we need to accelerate their catch so fast at the expense of the North end gillnet fleet? A 1:1 fishery will put the seine fleet well into their range by the next SE BOF meeting.

Thank you for considering this letter,

Richard I Eliason

Sitka, Alaska