

PROPOSAL 155

5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Allow the shoreward end of a set gillnet to be anchored other than on the beach above low tide, as follows:

5 AAC 09.331(5). In the Unimak Southwestern South Central and Southeastern Districts 25 fathoms of seine webbing may be used on the shoreward end of a set gillnet. The shoreward end of the seine **lead can be anchored behind a rock or in a kelp patch.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the Unimak Southwestern Southcentral and Southeastern Districts 25 fathoms of seine webbing may be used on the shoreward end of a set gillnet; the shoreward end of the seine webbing must be attached to the beach above low tide.

I would like to have the shoreward end of the lead not have to be attached to the beach above low tide as it is impossible to get ashore when the swells are normally too large breaking over the rocks but instead, anchored on the shoreward end of the set gillnet.

If this isn't changed I am unable to use my lead in the large bull kelp patches which extend offshore and ruin gillnet webbing making them too dirty and visible to salmon.

PROPOSED BY: Jim Smith

(EF-F18-035)

PROPOSAL 156

5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Repeal minimum mesh size requirement for set gillnets in the South Alaska Peninsula Area, as follows:

Repeal 5 AAC 09.331(b)(3) and replace with (c), in the South Alaska Peninsula there is no minimum mesh size for set gillnets.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Set gillnets have different mesh size requirements for different areas and sections in the south peninsula fisheries. The effect is having to buy extra nets of different size mesh.

PROPOSED BY: Sand Point Fish and Game Advisory Committee (HQ-F18-070)

PROPOSAL 157

5 AAC 09.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Allow two legal limits of set gillnet gear to be transported by a single vessel as long as both limited entry permit holders owning the gear are onboard the vessel, as follows:

5 AAC 39.240 (F) A set gillnet salmon fishing vessel in the Alaska Peninsula Area can operate, or assist in operating, or have aboard it or any vessel towed by it, the legal limit of salmon fishing gear for two CFEC permit holders 4 nets, 100 fathoms each of gear as long as both CFEC permit holders are on board the vessel.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Alaska Peninsula set gillnet fishing vessels are not allowed to fish combine on one vessel with two set net CFEC permit holders with their 400 fathoms of legal gear (4 nets). The Alaska Peninsula area has very rough dangerous waters and weather at times and some set gillnet net permit holders in the area only have a small vessel such as a skiff to fish off of which can lead to injury/death or not being able to fish the opener at all resulting in a loss in season profits or crew due to injury. Not all set gillnet vessels can make it to the fishing grounds safely due to vessel size and weather conditions which fishing in combine with larger vessels will benefit both parties.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Hartman

(EF-F18-108)

PROPOSAL 158

5 AAC 15.332. Seine specifications and operations.

Increase the maximum length of purse seines from 225 to 250 fathoms in the Eastern, Central, Western, and Perryville Districts, as follows:

Change the regulation concerning maximum purse seine length in Chignik in the Eastern, Central, Western and Perryville Districts to match those allowed in Kodiak and Area M. The new regulation would read:

5 AAC 15.332 (a) In the Eastern, Central, Western and Perryville Districts no purse seine less than 100 fathoms or more than **250** (225) fathoms in length may be used.

(b) In the Eastern, Central, Western and Perryville Districts no hand purse seine less than 100 fathoms or more than **250** (225) fathoms in length may be used.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulations in effect in Chignik under 5 AAC 15.332 (a), (b) which restricts purse seine length to a maximum of 225 fathoms in the Eastern, Central, Western and Perryville Districts. This limitation hampers efficiency and results in lost harvest opportunity for Chignik fishermen. The heavy interception that occurs on Chignik bound sockeye at Cape Igvak and throughout Area M often results in drastically lower numbers of sockeye entering the Chignik area in the days immediately after those interception fisheries are prosecuted. The gaps in the Chignik sockeye run created by those interception fisheries moves through the Chignik area from the outer districts inward toward Chignik Lagoon, resulting in reduced harvests and thus even further reduced harvest efficiency. To add insult to injury, the Kodiak and Area M seine fisheries are allowed to use purse seines that are 250 fathoms in length while fishing for Chignik bound sockeye within plain sight of Chignik fishermen who are restricted to 225 fathom purse seines.

PROPOSED BY: Axel Kopun

(EF-F18-054)
