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To: DFG, BOF Comments (DFG sponsored) <dfg.bof.comments@alaska.gov>

Subject: Substitute language For RC074 and RC115

Substitute language for RC074 and RC115

Adds a distinct cork color requirement to assist in enforcement of and reduce potential gear conflict. This was originally in proposal 57 but was omitted in RC074

Allows for the additional 25 fathoms to be added to either the seine end of the net or lead end of the net. This would help to allow smaller boat operators that utilize a "single pin" style of seine gear to fit the additional 25 fathoms of gear if they chose to operate under the newly adopted dual permit holder regulation.

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5 AAC 24.332(a) Seine specifications and operations is amended to read:

(a) Except for the first five fathoms in length of the purse seine, a purse seine may not be less than 200 meshes or more than 335 meshes in depth, or less than 125 fathoms or more than 225 fathoms in length, hung measure, or with mesh size greater than four inches stretched measure, except that the first 25 meshes immediately above or below the lead line may be a chafing strip with a mesh size no larger than seven and one-half inches stretched measure. Leads deeper than the seine or exceeding 75 fathoms in length, or leads with mesh size between four inches and six and one quarter inches may not be used, except as specified in 5 AAC 39.260(f) for a cork line border strip and lead line chafing strip. Except as provided in 5 AAC 24.XXX, the aggregate of seine and lead may not be more than 225 fathoms in length.

5 AAC 24 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 24.XXX Requirements and specifications for use of 250 fathoms of purse seine gear in Area E.

(a) Two Area E purse seine CFEC permit holders may concurrently fish from the same vessel and jointly operate up to 250 fathoms in the aggregate of seine and lead under this section, except that, in times of conservation, purse seine gear may be restricted by emergency order to an aggregate length of 225 fathoms of seine and lead.

(b) When two Area E purse seine CFEC permit holders fish from the same vessel and jointly operate purse seine gear under this section, the vessel must display its ADF&G permanent license plate number followed by the letter "D" to identify the vessel as a dual permit vessel. The letter "D" must be removed or covered when the vessel is operating with only one purse seine CFEC permit holder on board the vessel. The identification number and letters must be displayed

(1) in letters and numerals 12 inches high with lines at least one inch wide; (2) in a color that contrasts with the background;

(3) on both sides of the hull; and

(4) in a manner that is plainly visible at all times when the vessel is being operated.

(c) When two permit holders jointly operate gear under this section, each permit holder is responsible for ensuring that the entire unit of gear is operated in a lawful manner.

(D) Cork color other than white or yellow must be used on the additional 25 fathoms of jointly operated gear.

(E) Leads up to 100 fathoms may be used by two permit holders jointly operating gear under this section. Not to exceed the 250 aggregate under this section.

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