

Proposal 63 Permit stacking

Board Members

From reading the public comments and hearing testimony a few things catch my attention... Many seem to think long term family operations are bad and that residents of Alaska and non-residents should be treated differently and if there is nothing left in it for you, you should sell your permit into a depressed market so someone else can go broke.

Long term original issues seem more in favor of stacking than do recent buy ins and many fear stacking releases fisherman to compete with them in other fisheries.

Our family and our camp are part of the Akhiok community. We have fished the same locations since 1963 and employed Akhiok residents for decades. We own the land our camp is on and we are not going into any other salmon fishery if allowed to stack our 2 permits.

The Carlson Case is a good example of why the State Of Alaska shouldn't discriminate by residency.

Our family was original recipient's of 4 set net permits and 2 purse seine permits. We now hold only 2 setnet permits and 4 site locations. We have done our part for new entrants getting into the fishery.

With out stacking we may not be able to hold our net locations. Shore Fishery leases issued by the DNR are invalid if not fished regularly and unleased sites are only held by historic "Gentleman's Agreement".

2024 is shaping up to be a very very poor season for Alitak District set net fisherman.

Our Alitak cannery is now closed up and stripped after over 100 years of continuous operation, grounds prices for salmon adjusted for inflation are at an all-time low. Record return prediction for Ayakulik River and a low prediction for Alitak systems will force management to have long extended openings on the west side that will intercept and reduce Alitak runs to a trickle.

We have survived tough times over the years and to me 2024 is looking to be very very tough to survive. Permit stacking with a sunset is a tool that will help keep us afloat and our crew working.