

Proposal 143

Submitted by: Dan Norman

I commercial fish in Cook Inlet as a set netter with my family in Kenai, but I can not own a set net permit. I owned and operated a UCI set net permit from 2009-2021. I transferred by permits to my son and I bought a Bristol Bay Drift Permit in 2021. I still currently own the Bristol Bay permit which I "D Boat" with a friend.

With the uncertainty of if there would be any opportunity to catch fish and provide income for my family, I made a decision to go and try something new. I miss fishing with my family, but I also know that from a business perspective, it was a good move.

I still come to Cook Inlet and finish up the season if my Commanding Officer allows me to take additional leave from the Army.

I also don't know when I will get time off during the summer. If I get time off in June and Early July, then I will go to Bristol Bay. If I get time off in July into August, then I want to fish Cook Inlet with my family. That decision is often only a couple months from the season starting. It makes planning difficult. I would gladly pay the registration fee in both areas to alleviate some pre-season stress.

I think the Department misunderstood my intent with this proposal. I want to own and operate my Bristol Bay permit and own and operate an Upper Cook Inlet Set net permit. I have no intent or desire to fish my Upper Cook Inlet Set net Permit anywhere other than the ESSN fishery with my family.

I was at the statewide meeting and a similar proposal was brought forth. That Proposal did not have the UCI area language found in this proposal. The statewide proposal failed as the Board thought it was too broad. My intent is to limit the scope of this proposal to only allowing UCI Set net Permit holders also own and operate an additional CFEC permit for other state waters outside of UCI.

I will not be eligible for the Set Net permit buyback program as I would not have owned a permit for 3 of the last 4 years. The buyout is not part of my motivation for this proposal. I simply want to have an option to start my season in Bristol Bay and come back Home to family and finish the season with them.