

**Written materials from December 2006 Board of Fisheries relative to restructuring proposal #15 (Allow multiple set gillnet and drift gillnet permit use in Bristol Bay)**

Proposal

Amended language

Staff comment

AC comment

Public comment

**PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Amend this regulation as follows:

Allow anyone who owns two setnet permits to operate them in accordance with existing regulations and anyone who owns two drift permits to be allowed to fish them in accordance with 5 AAC 06.333.

**ISSUE:** A person may own two permits but he can only fish one at a time. HB251 gives the board the authority to allow one person to own and operate two permits at the same time. I am asking the board to allow anyone who owns two setnet permits to be allowed to fish them at the same time and anyone who owns two drift permits to be allowed to fish them in accordance with 5 AAC 06.333.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF NOTHING IS DONE?** There will continue to be no benefit to anyone who owns two permits.

**WILL THE QUALITY OF THE RESOURCE HARVESTED OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED BE IMPROVED?** N/A.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT?** Any fisherman who buys two fishing permits.

**WHO IS LIKELY TO SUFFER?** No one because the permits have been fished in the past.

**OTHER SOLUTIONS CONSIDERED?** None.

**PROPOSED BY:** Vince Webster

(SW-06F-021)

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**FAVOR**

Andrew Worhatch PC170

Laverne Pettigen PC5

Shannon Ford PC91

Mike Friccero PC92

Gerold Gugel PC99

Erick Stevens PC112

Kim Rice PC116

Peter Thompson PC164

Togiak AC1

**OPPOSE**

Nushagak AC2

Naknek/Kvichak AC3

Lake Iliamna AC4

Lower Bristol Bay AC5

*SUB. LANG. w/o OBSERVATION*  
**TCC 193** A  
*AMENDED AND*  
*TABLED TO RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE*  
5/1

**FINAL ACTION:** Carries    Fails    Tabled    No Action    See Prop. # \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTAIN HEYANO

DATE 12/11/06    TIME 3:08    TAPE # \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed language for proposal 15:

5 AAC 06.331(f) is amended to read:

(f) A person may not operate more than two set gillnets, and the aggregate length of set gillnets operated by that person may not exceed 100 [50] fathoms in length, **however, no single set gillnet may exceed 50 fathoms.** Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.240(a), a person may assist in operation and transportation of additional set gillnet gear when the CFEC interim-use or entry permit card holder of the additional gear is present in compliance with 5 AAC 39.107.

**Board Intent:**

Set gillnets must be fished within the same district:

Set gillnet permit holders must observe 48-hour transfer to another district:

Set gillnet permit holder must be present at the site.

STAFF COMMENTS

**COMMITTEE C: Gear, Vessels, Registration, (41 Proposals)**

**PROPOSAL 14 - 5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations, and 5 AAC 06.33X. Holder of multiple permits.**

PROPOSED BY: Erick Sabo

WHAT WOULD THE PROPOSAL DO? This proposal would allow the holder of two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish and operate 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear from a single vessel except in special harvest areas. Additionally, the permit holder would not be subject to the 48-hour transfer period when changing district registration.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT REGULATIONS? Permit holders may own more than one permit but they may not fish them concurrently. Current regulation limits the length of drift gillnet gear to no more than 150 fathoms per vessel unless two permit holders are on board the vessel and it is marked accordingly, in which case, 200 fathoms of gear may be used. Currently, all permit holders must register to fish in a fishing district. If a permit holder chooses to change districts, they must submit a transfer form and wait 48 hours before fishing.

WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT IF THE PROPOSAL WERE ADOPTED? If the proposal is adopted, an additional 50 fathoms of drift gillnet gear would be allowed when the owner of two current drift gillnet permits operates them from the same vessel. Adoption of this proposal would also waive the 48-hour district transfer notification period for the holder of multiple permits.

BACKGROUND: The legal limit of gear for drift gillnet vessels was 150 fathoms for over 20 years until 2003 when a proposal was adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) allowing the use of 200 fathoms of gear when two permit holders were on the vessel and the vessel was marked accordingly.

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The department is **NEUTRAL** on the allocative aspects of this proposal. The department is **OPPOSED** to the additional record keeping that would be required by this proposal and is concerned that adoption of this proposal would further complicate the registration and re-registration process.

COST ANALYSIS: The department does not believe that approval of this proposal would result in an additional cost for a private person to participate in this fishery.

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**PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.**

PROPOSED BY: Vince Webster

WHAT WOULD THE PROPOSAL DO? This proposal would allow the holder of two Bristol Bay drift gillnet permits to fish and operate 200 fathoms of gear and owners of



two set gillnet permits to fish and operate them simultaneously. Adoption of this proposal would also require an amendment of 5 AAC 06.333. Requirements and specifications for use of 200 fathoms of drift gillnet in Bristol Bay.

WHAT ARE THE CURRENT REGULATIONS? Permit holders may own more than one permit but they may not fish them concurrently. Current regulation limits the length of drift gillnet gear to no more than 150 fathoms per vessel unless two permit holders are on board the vessel and it is marked accordingly, in which case, 200 fathoms of gear may be used. Current regulation limits set gillnet operations to no more than two nets and the aggregate length may not exceed 50 fathoms. Additionally, there are restrictions in place regarding the maximum distance that set gillnet gear may be fished relative to shore.

WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT IF THE PROPOSAL WERE ADOPTED? If the proposal is adopted, permit holders would be able to fish two full compliments of set gillnet gear simultaneously. It is unclear whether the intent of this proposal is to allow for the gear to be fished in one unit or if it would be divided into two standard sized sections. This proposal would allow an additional 50 fathoms of gear to be used when an individual that owns two current drift gillnet permits operates them from the same vessel.

BACKGROUND: The legal limit of gear for set gillnet permit holders is 50 fathoms. The legal limit of gear for drift gillnet vessels was 150 fathoms for over 20 years until 2003 when a proposal was adopted that allowed for the use of 200 fathoms of gear when two permit holders were on the vessel and the vessel was marked accordingly.

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The department is **NEUTRAL** on this allocative proposal. However, the department has concerns that elongating an individual's set gillnet gear could have a significant impact on the catches of adjacent set gillnet permit holders as well as drift gillnet permit holders. It should also be noted that increasing the legal length of gear can negatively affect the quality of fish. Additionally, there are restrictions in place regarding the maximum distance that set gillnet gear may be fished relative to shore. This maximum distance may be exceeded by doubling the legal amount of gear used at each site.

COST ANALYSIS: The department does not believe that approval of this proposal would result in an additional cost for a private person to participate in this fishery.

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## **PROPOSAL 16 - 5 AAC 06.331 Gillnet Specifications and Operations**

**PROPOSED BY: Kenneth Wilson**

WHAT WOULD THE PROPOSAL DO? This proposal would prohibit operation of a drift gillnet when any part of the gillnet is grounded above the water line or any part of the vessel operating the net is grounded.

approval. Frank asked question on drifting for subsistence on the river if he would be ticketed. Answer: yes, only set net subsistence in Bristol Bay. Yukon/Kusko with this proposal can drift for subsistence.

**Break 3:05-3:12 pm**

**Proposal 7 Subsistence for Lodges not including caretakers.** Helen G. moves to accept proposal seconded by Mike M. Motion passed.

**Proposal 14 One person can have two permits and operate 200 F net.**

Mike M moved to accept proposal seconded by Frank L. Motion failed.

\* **Proposal 15 Gillnet/Setnet specifics.** Posen A. moved to accept proposals and all similar proposals seconded by Helen G. Motion passed.

**Proposal 17 Removes requirement for light at end of net.** Posen moves to **not** remove lights seconded by John N. Motion passed.

**Proposal 18 Identification of gear.** Julius H. moves to leave regulations as is seconded by John B. Motion passed.

**Proposal 20 Permit holders must report lost nets to Fish/Game within 15 hours of loss.** Helen G. moved to accept seconded by John N. Motion passed.

\* **Proposal 39-47 Seek to repeal 32' length limit on fishing boats.** Posen A. moved to accept proposal seconded by Julius H. Motion fails.

**Proposal 49 Establish shares of salmon catch similar to crab IFQ.** Helen G. moves to accept proposal seconded by John B. Motion Fails

**Proposal 51 Allows General District Fishing.** Julius H. moved to accept proposal seconded by John N. Motion fails. Problem: will never know which district is in trouble.

**Proposal 52 Allows General District Fishing after every district meets its maximum escapement.** No action taken in relation to action taken on Prop. 51.

**Herring Proposals** no action as there is no Herring fishery in Togiak.

**Proposal 121 Pebble Mine to be designated by State Fish/Game as refuge area.**

Julius H. moved to accept proposal seconded by John B. Motion passed. Question was asked if the Board of Fisheries has authority to designate refuge area for fish. Example of Prop. 158 Holitna Refuge that Board of Fish introduced to Legislature in March 2006 and was approved. Frank suggested we support Nushagak Advisory Council with amendment to include Salmon River has no salmon.

**AFN Leadership Forum.** Helen G. had attended and distributed hand out on Recommendations from AFN Subsistence Forum on Maintaining our Traditional Way of Life. Joe C. suggested Togiak Advisory Council write letter of support for AFN recommendations. Helen G. will write letter.

**7. OLD BUSINESS: nothing under Old Business**

**Charlotte W.** Togiak Spawn on Kelp Task Force needs to organize and meet.

**Reminder:** Board of Fish meeting in Dillingham, Dec. 4-12, 2006. Let Joe know who is going to the meeting from TAC, he can make arrangements for 2 people to attend.

Important to attend public and committee sessions.

**8. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING** Left up to the Chairperson.

**9. Adjournment:** Julius H. moved to adjourn seconded by John B. Meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm

Minutes provided courtesy of BBNA  
Helen Gregorio, Recording Secretary

planning purposes during the course of the season. (Where to send tenders, processing and tendering capacity, etc.)

Kenny thinks that this is a quick fix to reduce boats and would like to amend.

Tim says that proposal 15 would better address the issue.

**Committee votes unanimously to oppose.**

★ **Proposal 15**

Tim explains that this is a set net proposal that would allow an operator to operate two permits under one name.

**Harry moves to adopt, Ofi seconds.**

Harry wants to be sure that the 48-hour transfer rule would still be in effect.

Peter explains that he has been in conversation with a person that had fished with a dual permit and that person had indicated that he wished that they would do away with it.

Tim mentions that this proposal would be for set net.

Long discussion on how much gear set netters would be allowed, if they could stack on one site, fish two legal compliments on two sites, same ratio as drifters, etc.

Tim mentions that if they were able to fish longer nets than their neighbors, then they would really cork them off and would wonder how they would feel about it?

Ofi wondered about the ratio of resident dual permit holders to non-residents? He figures that it's probably in the high 90's by non-watershed resident permit holders. The rationale of the dual permits was supposed to give opportunity for a permit holder to reduce costs and to remove gear from the water. Everything should be equal. Regulations keep changing. This would benefit the richer fisherman who could afford it. He would vote against the proposal.

Andy Ruby spoke for the local residents couldn't afford another permit because of the high cost of living in Bristol Bay. Most if not all of their cash just goes for living expenses like food and heating oil. It's very expensive to live here in the villages.

Joe thought that the author wanted to fish 100 fathoms on his site.

Tim said that this could be interpreted different ways. 100 fathoms on one site, fish same ratio as gill netters, split their nets into four sites with 100 fathoms. It's just unclear what his intent is.

Hans said that we know Vince's intent, he wants to fish more gear. We need more information on exactly what he wants to do. I'm sure it will come out during the board deliberations; he isn't in favor of the proposal as written.

**Committee votes unanimously to oppose.**

Hans asks the committee if we could postpone action on proposals 16, 17, and 18 until the next morning when officer Justin Rodgers could be there to answer questions and provide input. Committee agrees.

**Proposal 19**

**Harry moves to adopt, William seconds.**

Kenny points out that in certain parts of the bay, the set netters cannot get to their anchoring devices and would be unable to comply with the regulation.

Hans opposes because of the same reasons. This would be unrealistic and place an unfair burden on them. It would also prevent them from fishing in their customary manner as many would have to relocate their anchoring devices closer in to shore so that they could remove them. A lot of set netters anchor their outside ends at a very low minus tide. Also, the majority of set netters in the Nushagak use screw anchors. Using any other devices would not work in the gravel and swift currents.

**Committee votes unanimously to oppose.**

**Proposal 20**

Tim explains that 15 hours would provide enough time between fishing periods.

**Ofi moves to adopt, William seconds.**

Andy asks "What happens if it isn't reported after 15 hours?"

Tim would be a violation of some kind. This would encourage reporting.

**Committee votes unanimously to support.**

**Proposal 21**

Tim explains that one commercial fisherman owning two permits could stack in accordance and authorized by 5 AAC 06.333.

**Ofi moves to adopt, Harry seconds.**

Harry states that only persons that are rich enough could buy another permit. Most people in the bay can't afford that. He doesn't support that.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: 10/30/06

Page 1 of     

ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME: NAKNEK/KUICHAK

Location (City, town, village): KING SALMON

Members Present: RALPH ANGASAN SR., VINCE WEBSTER, JOE KLUTSCH, FRED PIKE, GEORGE RIDDLE, ABE WILLIAMS OLIVER SASSER,

Members Absent HOWARD NELSON RYAN WILLSON, CARVEL ZIMM JR RICHARD WILSON, DALE PETERS

Members Excused NONE

QUORUM PRESENT: YES  NO

ADF&G Staff Present: SLIM MORSTAD, CRAIG SWANKE, JOE CHYTHLOOK

Time meeting called to order 6:07 AM  / PM

Old Business and New Business: -- Use additional pages

Time Meeting Adjourned 11:15 AM  / PM

Signature:   
Committee Secretary

P.O. Box 189  
AKNEK, ALASKA 99633

www.theborough.com



TELEPHONE  
(907) 246-4224  
FAX  
(907) 246-6633

# Bristol Bay Borough

September 5, 2006

Commissioner McKie Campbell  
Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game  
POB 115526  
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

Commissioner:

Finfish Proposals for Bristol Bay will be coming up in December of this year. The Bristol Bay Borough was formed in 1962, the first borough in the state, with a plan that the Naknek/Kvichak District and the fish industry would generate revenue for the borough to provide a portion of the services to the villages of King Salmon, Naknek and South Naknek. Today we continue to count on this revenue and are home to over 1000 commercial fishing vessels laid up within the borough each year. With this revenue benefit, comes the responsibility of providing services to the large influx of people the fish industry brings.

The Borough is concerned with the burden that has been placed on the Naknek/Kvichak District for the past 21 years. The restrictions placed on this district have resulted in lost fishing time and an economic hardship for the fishermen of the Naknek/Kvichak District and the Bristol Bay Borough. I have been told that DNA samples have been taken this year and may aid in the better understanding of the salmon migration and the natal streams they are destined for. Lacking results of this information lets look at known facts. Businesses are run to make a profit. There were eight shore based processors operating in the Naknek/Kvichak District in 2006. Previously, there had been an additional three shore base plants and another company camp that operated within the Naknek/Kvichak District. Going further back there are two more abandoned canneries on the Naknek River and another six on the Kvichak River. These facilities were not built where there were so they could haul fish from Egegik and Ugashik. These facilities were built to be close to the fish!

In 1960 and 1961 reports from ADFG recommended curtailing fishing in the outside waters of Egegik and Ugashik. We are confident that DNA sampling will bear this out. This year's daily summaries, put out by ADFG, show that when fish are moving into the Egegik River the escapement ratio is about 1/4-1/3 to that of the harvest. Yet other days the catch remains high with very little escapement (example: July 14<sup>th</sup> 450,000 harvest, 6,552 escapement, Ugashik has no escapement in early season openings). The other river systems do not have this oddity.

AC. COMMENT#

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Fishermen of the Naknek/Kvichak District, especially set net fishermen, should be afforded the opportunity to fish at their regular sites; 250 to 300 set net fishermen have been displaced 12 out of the last 21 years and forced to fish in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area, a cesspool of fish guts, created by the harvest of fish in other districts, that may or may not have been bound for the Naknek/Kvichak District.

We understand the political pressure, placed by processors, to extend the season, and allow for a reduced work force to create the pack necessary for a positive bottom line, but we can no longer stand idly by and allow this mismanagement to occur. 5AAC 39.220 (b)....., the burden of conservation shall be shared among all fisheries in close proportion to their respective harvest on the stock of concern.

It is time we move the western boundaries of the Ugashik District and Egegik District shoreward and allow at least a portion of the Naknek/Kvichak District to fish. We will be glad to put a 10 year sunset clause in regulation if this does not work. The Bristol Bay Borough Assembly concurs, that we should manage with good science and not political pressure.

I would be glad to discuss this matter at length with you and you are always welcome to come out to Naknek to give your thoughts to our Assembly. The Borough Assembly meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 PM, at the Borough Building, in Naknek.

Thank you,



Michael S. Swain Sr.  
Bristol Bay Borough, Mayor

cc: Governor Frank Murkowski  
Denby Lloyd, Director of Commercial Fisheries  
Jeff Regnart, Regional Supervisor



# Bristol Bay Borough

## RESOLUTION 2006-14

### A Resolution of the Bristol Bay Borough to Increase the Naknek River Special Harvest Area (NRSHA).

**WHEREAS**, the Bristol Bay Borough was formed, at the request of the State of Alaska, with a plan to provide revenue generation through taxes collected from the fishing industry within the Bristol Bay Borough and the Naknek/Kvichak District and;

**WHEREAS**, fishers of the Naknek/Kvichak District and the Bristol Bay Borough have suffered economic loss and hardship through disproportionate reduction of area in relation to other east side districts and;

**WHEREAS**, 250-300 set net fishers have been displaced 12 out of the last 21 years and forced to fish in the Naknek River, (an area 1/3 of a mile wide and 4 1/2 miles long), with no end of this management practice in sight, while there is no displacement of set net fishers in other eastside districts and;

**WHEREAS**, past ADFG reports, indicate significant interception of Naknek/Kvichak bound sockeye, within other east side fishing districts and;


**WHEREAS**, 5AAC 39.220.9B) .... the burden of conservation shall be shared among all fisheries in close proportion to their respective harvest on the stock of concern,

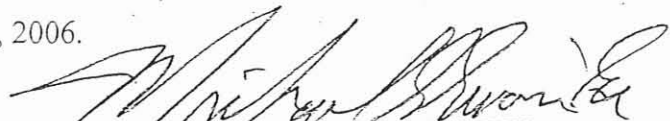
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Bristol Bay Borough Assembly request the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, through Board of Fish actions, expand the NRSHA to allow Naknek Section set net fishers the opportunity to fish at their normal site, within the Naknek & NRSHA Section of the Naknek/Kvichak District and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Bristol Bay Borough Assembly that fishing in the Ugashik District will not occur west of a line (described by lat. / log.) from the northwestern most tip of South Spit northward to the southwestern most tip of Smokey Point, prior to June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

ADOPTED and approved, 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2006.

ATTEST:

  
Betty J. Bonin  
Borough Clerk

  
Michael S. Swain, Sr.  
Mayor

AC. COMMENT# 3

# STATE OF ALASKA

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI  
GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P.O. BOX 115526  
JUNEAU, AK 99811-5526  
PHONE: (907) 465-4100  
FAX: (907) 465-2332

October 11, 2006

The Honorable Michael S. Swain Sr.  
Mayor of Bristol Bay Borough  
P.O. Box 189  
Naknek, AK 99633

Dear Mayor Swain:

Thank you for writing and conveying the concerns of the Bristol Bay Borough regarding the restrictions to Naknek-Kvichak District salmon fishery. In addition, I received a copy of the Borough's letter and resolution to Board of Fisheries (BOF) Chairman Art Nelson. I understand the importance of the salmon harvested in this district to the wellbeing of the residents and communities of the Bristol Bay Borough. I also fully appreciate your concern that the burdens of conserving and rebuilding the Kvichak River sockeye salmon stocks should be shared equitably among all users that harvest these stocks.

Sockeye salmon in the Kvichak River have exhibited poor production since 1996. This extended period of low production resulted in the designation of Kvichak River sockeye salmon as a stock of concern by the BOF. This triggered a number of management actions, including those which you have identified, intended to protect the spawning population returning to the Kvichak River. While the fishing areas closest to river received the brunt of the restrictions, the Egegik and Ugashik Districts have also taken restrictions. The Egegik and Ugashik management plans require that if the Naknek-Kvichak District is closed to fishing because of a low forecast, then the outer portions of the Egegik and Ugashik Districts may be closed. Since 2000, commercial fishing has frequently been limited in the Naknek River Special Harvest Area, as well as in the Egegik River Special Harvest Area, and a reduction in the fishing area of the Ugashik District, either for an entire season or a significant portion of the season.

These restrictions are producing positive results in the Kvichak River escapements. In 2004, 5.5 million sockeye entered Kvichak River, near the 6 million escapement goal. In 2005 and 2006, the minimum goal of 2.0 million sockeye salmon was exceeded with 2.3 and 3.0 million sockeye. The most exciting news is that the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is seeing an increase in returns-per-spawner from a recent 10-year average of 1.1 to over 3.0 this past season. This may be an indication that the period of low productivity is giving way to a more normal level of sockeye salmon production in the Kvichak River.

You also explain some of the hardships Naknek-Kvichak District set gillnet fishermen have endured as a result of Kvichak River sockeye salmon being designated as a stock of management concern at the 2003 BOF meeting. You have asked that the Egegik and Ugashik fisheries be

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restricted to smaller areas and to allow some part of the Naknek-Kvichak District to be opened to commercial fishing. There are varying analyses of district harvests and escapements that suggest different conclusions regarding the level and significance of the interception of Kvichak River sockeye in the Egegik and Ugashik districts.

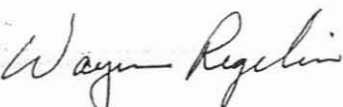
In fisheries of similar magnitude, proximity, and run time as those supported by the major Bristol Bay systems, some interception will occur regardless of where district boundaries are established. However, recent large runs to the Naknek and Alagnak rivers (with current management strategies in place) suggest that current measures are being effective in curtailing interception of Naknek/Kvichak bound sockeye salmon.

The responsibility for allocating the burdens of conservation and benefits of harvest lies with the BOF. The BOF has expressed its intent in the *Bristol Bay Commercial Set and Drift Gillnet Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Management and Allocation Plan* that Bristol Bay sockeye salmon be harvested in the traditional harvest locations (5 AAC 06.355). The BOF has also recognized in this plan the guiding principles that the Bristol Bay area salmon districts should be managed as terminal fisheries, that interception between districts is unavoidable, and that management plans and practices should be used to ensure that salmon are harvested in districts of origin. You can see the difficulties in balancing all of these guiding principles along with an over-arching priority for achieving escapement goals.

ADF&G is conducting genetic stock identification of sockeye salmon in Bristol Bay to help clarify some of the issues you raise regarding where various sockeye salmon stocks are harvested. The genetic baseline for the major drainages in Bristol Bay has been completed and fishery sampling began in 2006. ADF&G anticipates the genetic stock identification project will bring greater clarity to the determination of the contributions of the Bristol Bay sockeye salmon stocks to the various fisheries in which they are harvested. With this objective and definitive data in hand, the users, ADF&G, and the BOF can make informed decisions regarding Bristol Bay area management plans.

I share your concerns regarding the Bristol Bay fisheries. I regret the hardship caused by these management actions, but I believe they are necessary for the recovery of the Kvichak River sockeye salmon stocks. Thank you for bringing these issues to my attention and for your invitation to address the Borough Assembly. I urge you to attend the BOF meeting, December 4-12 in Dillingham. The BOF will consider several proposals that address the issues you raised in your letter.

Sincerely,



McKie Campbell  
Commissioner



LOWER BRISTOL BAY A.S.

**LBBAC, P. 2.**

Proposal 121. Dan Kingsley/ Bill Albecker moved/ seconded to adopt. Creation of such a refuge was viewed as unnecessary and another layer of bureaucracy. And the citizens advisory committee, if implemented, would degrade the hard work and effectiveness of the current local fish and game advisory committees. The minority opinion suggested an amended version such as acted on by other ACs in the area could be workable if it could be implemented as river specific. The motion failed 1-6 by roll call vote.

Proposal 7. Roland Briggs/Dan Kingsley moved/seconded to adopt. The committee agreed with the intent of the proposal. Motion carried 7-0.

Proposal 8. The committee took no action. The intent of the proposal was not clear.

Proposals 9-13. The committee by motion agreed to take no action.

Proposal 16. Roland Briggs/ Dan Kingsley moved/seconded to adopt. The committee members felt this would not be enforceable bay wide. Motion failed 0-7.

Proposal 17. Roland Briggs/ Tim Enright moved/seconded to adopt. The committee agreed the existing regulation was working well. Motion failed 0-7.

Proposal 18. Roland Briggs/ Dan Kingsley moved/seconded to adopt. The majority felt the current regulation worked well. The minority felt the corks could be marked more than 10 fathoms apart. Motion failed 1-6.

Proposal 19. Roland B./Dan K. moved/seconded to adopt. The majority agreed with the intent of the proposal. The minority thought this would add undue hardship for set netters with fixed sites with pegs that were set out in the lowest tide in the book prior to the season. Motion carried 4-3 by roll call vote.

Proposal 20. Tim E./Dan K. moved/seconded to adopt. The majority felt this would give the department a better tool. The minority thought the existing regulation was adequate. Motion carried 6-1.

Proposal 14. Tim E./Dan K. moved/seconded to adopt. The committee agreed with department comments that this would create havoc and disorder to the fishery. Motion failed 0-7.

★ Proposal 15. Tim E./Roland B. moved/seconded to adopt. The majority agreed this would put more gear in the water while the minority agreed with the intent of the proposal. Motion failed 1-6.

Proposal 21. Tim E./ Nancy F. moved/seconded to adopt.

RECEIVED

OCT 06 2006

OCT 27 2006

**Art Nelson**  
2132 Clark St.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504

**Jeremiah Campbell**  
PO Box 1586  
Seward, AK 99664

**Rupe Andrews**  
9416 Long Run Dr.  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

**Bonnie Williams**  
PO Box 82812  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

**Robert Heyano**  
PO Box 1409  
Dillingham, AK 99576

**John Jensen**  
PO Box 681  
Petersburg, AK 99833

**Mel Morris**  
917 Mill Bay Road  
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
Boards Support Section  
P.O. Box 25526  
Juneau, AK 99802-5526

My name is Laverne Pettigen and I have set netted in Bristol Bay, for over 30 years, born and raised in Alaska and I have seen a lot of changes comes to the fishing industry especially, in Naknek, district since year 2000. We used to come to Bristol Bay, from Anchorage on June 15<sup>th</sup> and stay until July 25<sup>th</sup> now our fishing time is so short we come July 3<sup>rd</sup> and leave July 20<sup>th</sup>. The last 2 years 2005 and 2006 has been our best fishing because we were able to fish Out side the Naknek Special Harvest area and not having to fight with our neighbors on where we were going to fish, due to each of lack space in the special harvest area. We fished on our leased sites from the state and were able to catch enough fish to pay our expenses and make a little. I am concerned as a set netter on some of these proposals.

\* \*Proposal 15-YES, I have 2 set net permits and some times when work or health issues come up we have to find someone to take over one of the permits when I could fish both of them with crew members.

COMMENT# 5



FAX TO: Boards Support Section, ADF&G  
Fax #: (907) 465-6094  
Phone#: (907) 465-4110

4 Pages

FROM: Shannon Ford  
Fax #: (253) 939-2384  
Phone #: (253) 735-6045

RECEIVED  
NOV 17 2006  
BOARDS

Comments on proposals submitted for consideration by the Board of Fisheries at the December, 2006 meetings.

\* PROPOSAL 15 - 5 AAC 06.331 Gillnet specifications and operations. Amend this regulation as follows:

Allow anyone who owns two setnet permits to operate them in accordance with existing regulations and anyone who owns two drift permits to be allowed to fish them in accordance with 5 AAC 06.333.

Support

PROPOSAL 16 - 5 AAC 06.331 Gillnet specifications and operations. Amend this regulation as follows:

(R) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.105.(d)(3) in the Bristol Bay area a person may not operate a drift gillnet when the vessel to which it is attached is grounded or when any part of the gillnet is grounded above the waterline. [IN THE special harvest areas. . .

Support

PROPOSAL 19 - 5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet Specifications and operations. Amend this regulation as follows:

All setnet gear, lines, anchors, stakes, buoys, kegs etc. shall be removed from any and all waters during any and all driftnet openings used by managements to enforce any Bristol Bay commercial salmon fishing allocation plan.

See also PROPOSAL 67 - 5 AAC 06-360, PROPOSAL 76 - 5 AAC 06.359, PROPOSAL 106 - 5 AAC 06.365.

**OPPOSE - Definition of "setnet" is a set net. This requires something to anchor the lines and gear, something that will provide a sure and constant location for the gear while avoiding having the net drift (as when Bruce anchors and such only are used). Putting in screw anchors and other semi-permanent holding devices is a difficult and time-consuming task, and one that only may be done at specific stages of low tide. Requiring the complete removal of all gear would create a situation rife with dangers for setnetters including but not limited to: inability to access stakes, screw anchors, etc.; actual fishing time lost at the beginning and end of each fishing opening while setting up anchors, lines, etc.; increased instances of setnets drifting due to inadequate anchoring systems, thus possibly damaging the gear and success of other fishers; no location for the secure anchoring of setnet skiffs between openings, and no method of reaching setnet skiffs anchored out (if the lines are gone, life rafts may not be used to manually pull oneself out to the skiff); loss of rest time in between openings while adding heavy physical labor resulting in increased injuries and or deaths due to exhaustion; financial hardship and possible inability to continue in the fishery due to impossibility of fishing in compliance with new setnet regulations.**

Suggest options for clearly marking buoys, sinking lines, etc.

COMMENT# 91



ADF&G Boards Support Section  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, Ak 99811-5526

RECEIVED

11/15/06

NOV 17 2006

BOARDS

Re: Written Comments for Bristol Bay Finfish

Mr. Chairman and Members of The Alaska Board of Fisheries:

On behalf of my wife Gina and Myself, I would like to encourage the Ak BOF to seriously consider and approve the proposals listed below that relate to the "modernization" of the Bristol Bay Fishery. We have fished as driftnetters in every season since 1978. We own and operate two boats and permits and would like to continue to invest our time and talent in this fishery. All four of our children and several of our foster children (five foster children of Alaska Native heritage) have and will assist in our operation. We support the modernization concept and wish for a solid future in this fishery for our children as well.

In our experience, the outstanding problems in this fishery are:

- There are too many boats
- The boats are too small
- The fish are low quality
- We no longer are profitable

The proposals that we support include those listed below:

- ★ 1. **Permit Stacking** (# 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 25, 28) – This industry based buyback opportunity is a benefit to everyone involved in this fishery. For every double permit boat, the extra 50 fm net displaces an entire boat and 150 fm of net. If you do not allow the stacking of permits (two in one name) this opportunity will be minimized and many unused permits will return to the fishery with a boat and 3 nets.
2. **Additional Benefits for Dual Permit Boats (#33)** any benefits allowed to the double permit operations will increase the effectiveness of the buyback and reduce the overall number of boats participating.
3. **Increase Boat Length** (#39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47) We have converted one vessel to refrigeration and stand ready to purchase more permits and refrigerate the second vessel. Both our vessels have fished the double permit option as well and both of these vessels would be safer and more efficient if they were

COMMENT#

92



**F/V Eternity Inc.  
1911 Dolly Varden Cir  
Anchorage, Ak. 99516**

Tele:907 644 2918, Cell 907 223 0133, E-mail: [gugell@yahoo.com](mailto:gugell@yahoo.com)

NOV 17 2006

NOV 17 2006

BOARDS

**FAX**

Fax #907 465 6094

Attn: BOF Comments

11/16/06

Alaska Department of fish and Game  
Boards Support Section  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Re: Written comments on Porposal # 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 25, 28.

Dear board members:

My name is Gerold Gugel, skipper and owner of the fishing vessel Eternity, commercial fisherman of 52 years, Alaskan native.

**I strongly support permit stacking for the following reasons:**

1. Requiring two permits holder, to take advantage of the extra 50 fathoms lends itself to cheating and law enforcement, headache. One day, the vessel, could be legal, the next day a crew member is gone for whatever.
2. Requiring two permit holders has encouraged individuals to break the limited entry permit laws, concerning leasing and ownership of permits.
3. Permit stacking gives the industry an opportunity to implement a fleet reduction which adds up to profitability for those that remain in the fishery.
4. The benefits of the potential of permit stacking will and is increasing the cost of permits, which will help the seller as well as a benefit to the buyer.
5. The requirement of two persons, two permits, makes for potential conflict on the vessel.
6. Support of the permit stacking in Bristol Bay could encourage application of this principle in other over capitalized fisheries.
7. Permit stacking makes sense.

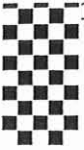
Thank you,

Gerold S. Gugel Jr., fishing vessel Eternity

**99**

COMMENT#

RECEIVED TIME NOV. 16. 2:47PM



Erick Stevens  
5762 Storr Rd.  
Ferndale Wa.  
F/V Vortex

November 16 2006

RE: Written comments for Bristol Bay Finfish

ADF&G, Boards Support Section  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

RECEIVED  
NOV 17 2006  
BOARDS

Dear Board Members,

I am a lifelong fisherman and have fished in the bay for 20 years. I have seen the problems first hand and have been frustrated at the slow reaction to address them, namely the viability of the Bristol Bay Fishery. For the first time I believe we have a real opportunity to make the changes that could completely turn the fishery around.

The studies have been done and the authority has been given and now we need action.

I support the following proposals 14, 15,21,22,23,25,28,33,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,51.

In general the proposals 14-33 would create incentives to stack permits and thus reduce the fleet. This would benefit everyone for all the reasons presented in the proposals. It's important that the board create enough incentives to encourage more participation with fisherman buying additional permits. I strongly support proposal 33 for that reason.

The proposals 39-51 would allow our fishery to enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century whereby we could have the kind of fleet that could produce the highest quality fish and thereby increase the overall value of the resource. This would benefit everyone.

Please consider these proposals carefully. We need change and we need it now.

Sincerely,

Erick Stevens

COMMENT# 112

RECEIVED TIME NOV. 17. 10:15AM