

RC 30FAX: 907-465-6094

Board Meeting: Board of Fisheries—Bristol Bay Finfish meeting**Date: 28 November 2018****Name: Tiel and Ben Smith****Phone: 907-301-2384****Emails: kvickak@gmail.com; bloominfireweed@gmail.com; benjamin.tiel.smith@aggiemail.usu.edu****Address: 1754 Eastridge Drive, Anchorage, AK 99501****RE: Proposal 34**

Board of Fish:

Proposal 34 discusses the accommodation of site leases within the East side marker on the front beach at Graveyard Point on the Kvichak River. As key players of this issue, we would like to issue a statement regarding proposition 34 that includes us.

For the last few years, we have come to you with erosion problems and have proposed guidelines to solve these issues regarding historical site placement (see our most recent: 30 Jan 2018). This fall of 2018, another storm has ravaged and destroyed yet more landmass on the front beach of Graveyard Point, exposing more beach and wrecking more buildings. Additionally, neighboring site lease holders are proposing new rearrangements of the front beach sites and the marker for their own benefit that will have negative effects on fellow front beach neighbors. Instead, we are just focused on, and again approaching you, regarding the continuing erosion issue affecting the sites and the lack of space as our sites start to overlap each other in their current "wagon-wheel" placement around the isthmus.

Per our comment submitted 30 January 2018, we follow the, "Criteria for Board Deliberation on Commercial Set Gillnet Proposals Impacted by Coastal Regions," as released by you under 2016-283-FB, and suggest some solutions to this issue. We would like to echo our comment and claim our support for moving the east side marker, as it has historically existed between the east and west side, the necessary minimum distance upstream to accommodate the erosion issue, expanding the accessible fishing area on the front beach to fit in the site leases in question. We feel it is in the best interest of all parties, does not create new negative impacts to neighbors, and is a favorable solution for the group economically, geographically, and for a temporary amount of time in case erosion issues affect us again.

We appreciate your time and efforts in this matter.

Respectfully,

L. Tiel Smith
ADL224516

Benjamin Smith
ADL224517

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RE: Proposal 35

Board of Fish:

Proposal 35 requests the removal of markers at the mouth of the Graveyard Creek, currently blocking fishing within the creek. The creek has been used as a safe water harbor for numerous skiffs for several decades. The removal of these markers would disrupt the harboring of skiffs, jeopardize safety of accessing and parking skiffs—especially at low water levels—as well as block the only route for fisherman to depart the creek during, and outside of, fishing periods.

While we support safe navigation of harboring waters, we also recognize historical placement of sites. We ask that sites fished at the mouth of the river be permitted to fish on the side of the creek, not across as to block access and departure to the creek.

In summary, we respectfully ask you not to support the removal of the markers or eliminate established fishing within the Graveyard Creek but instead support the historical placement of sites and their ability to fish in ways that do not interrupt safe navigation in and out of the same creek.

We appreciate your time and efforts in this matter.

Respectfully,

L. Tiel Smith
ADL224516

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