

**Submitted by Rick Wysocki**

**December 1**

**Regarding Proposal 35**

**Section 5 AAC 06.335 -**

**Minimum distance between units of gear**

**(a)** In the Naknek-Kvichak, Egegik, Ugashik, and Togiak Districts, no part of a set gillnet may be set or operated within 300 feet of any part of another set gillnet. In the Nushagak District, no part of a set gillnet may be set or operated within 450 feet of any part of another set gillnet. The provisions of this subsection do not prohibit a CFEC permit holder from operating a set gillnet seaward of another set gillnet operated under the authority of the same CFEC permit.

**(b)** No part of a drift gillnet may be operated within 300 feet of the side of a set gillnet and within **200** [100 ] feet of the offshore end of a set gillnet. The **200** [100] -foot restriction does not apply seaward of the offshore setnet distance restrictions set out in 5 AAC 06.331(m) and (n).

**(c)** In the Nushagak District, no part of a drift gillnet may be operated within 100 feet of the inshore end of a set gillnet, except that in the locations described in 5 AAC 06.331(n), no part of a drift gillnet may be operated inshore of a set gillnet.

**Purpose of RC amendment:**

After discussion between different gear groups, 200 feet is reasonably sufficient and 300 feet may more than enough to remedy our safety concerns. 200 feet would greatly improve on the safety aspect as it doubles the current distance. It strikes a nice balance in achieving the objectives of the original proposal. Extending the separation allows setnetters to safely tow their nets with no interference.

**Why not keep it at 100 feet and go off the outmost buoy instead of the net?**

There has been some discussion about why not just use the outermost buoy as a marker instead of the net. Setnet anchor styles vary between set netters (running lines and fixed anchor pegs vs. bruce style moveable anchors) and different styles of set netting. Keeping the distance from the net can be enforced as it is a universal delineator.