

Proposition 40.

:

- The ever changing mud and channels of the Kvichak, fill in of mud and erosion of banks is creating issues for setnetters in the Kvichak river as it becomes increasingly difficult for setnetters to anchor their nets on slopes that are the most productive areas to fish. The Rules that limit the distance offshore that a setnetter can fish from the 18 foot high water mark does not make sense in the Kvichak as a whole. The “(B) the web of the shoreward end of the set gillnet must go dry at the time of the opening” rule that already applies to the East side of the Kvichak and a small portion of the West side, should apply to the entire Kvichak. This would effectively eliminate any “line fishing” and spread out the few setnetters that fish the remote West side of the Kvichak.
- Very few drifters fish the West side of the Kvichak near the North Line due to its remoteness and this would not impact their ability to fish miles of open channel.
- Since channels move closer and further from shore from year to year, it only makes sense to allow setnetters to continue to fish the channel that connects to land
- The reason no one is leasing the two miles or so of shore on the West side is because the mudflat is too shallow and the fishing is far less productive than the cutbank to the South of the “Unnamed Creek”
- It should be known that nearly all the drifters that fish on the West side cutbank near Graveyard Point fish with their 200 fathom nets strung parallel to the shore, then motor the bow of their boats into the mud and effectively anchor their nets illegally against the shore. Drifters are basically set netting out there anyway, it doesn't make sense that a skiff can't also fish this cutbank.
- Removing the arbitrary line drawn in 1996 would simplify our regulations, clarify enforcement, and allow access to local watershed residents to set net in their native waters.

Here is the actual language in the current regulations. We propose removing the highlighted language from the current regulation book.

(5) in the Kvichak Section of the Naknek-Kvichak District from Libbyville Dock to a point near Graveyard Point at 58° 52.07' N. lat., 157° 00.80' W. long. and from the unnamed creek on the northwest shore of Kvichak Bay at 58° 52.25' N. lat., 157° 06.75' W. long. north to a point on the northwest shore of Kvichak Bay at 58° 53.37' N. lat., 157° 04.26' W. long., the maximum distance that a set gillnet may be operated offshore is as follows:

- (A) no part of a set gillnet may be more than 1,000 feet from the 18-foot high tide mark;
- or
- (B) the web of the shoreward end of the set gillnet must go dry at the time of the opening;

(6) deleted;

(7) repealed 6/24/93;