

PROPOSAL 152

5 AAC 09.332. Seine specifications and operations.

Amend the seine specification to reduce the allowable size gear as follows:

5 AAC 09.332. Seine specifications and operations

- (a) Purse seines or hand purse seines may not be less than 100 fathoms nor more than 250 fathoms in length. A purse seine or hand purse seine may not exceed **325** [375] meshes in depth. Seine mesh may not be more than three and one-half inches, except that the first 25 meshes above the leadline may not be more than seven inches.
- (b) **A lead** [LEADS] may not be [LESS THAN 50 FATHOMS NOR] more than **100** [150] fathoms in length. **The aggregate length of seine and lead may not be more than 250 fathoms in length.** Only one lead may be used with a seine. [A LEAD MAY BE ATTACHED TO ONLY ONE END OF A SEINE AND THE LEAD MAY NOT BE ATTACHED TO THE BOAT END OF THE SEINE.]

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations allow Area M seiners to use a 250 fathom long seine, plus a 150 fathom long lead, which in effect results in the ability to use a net 400 fathoms long. The seines are also allowed to be up to 375 meshes deep. This is an extreme outlier in the entire Central and Western Gulf of Alaska seine fisheries. Shorter and shallower seines will reduce the killing power of the seine fleet and will reduce the interception and bycatch of struggling non-target stocks, including AYK chum, Chignik-bound sockeye, and chinook caught there while migrating through the area.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Yes. We relied on local knowledge and talked with fishermen who have fished seines of varying depths over the years.

PROPOSED BY: Chignik Intertribal Coalition

(EF-F26-106)
