

PROPOSAL 83

5 AAC 06.341. Vessel specifications and operations.

Extend the overall length of a vessel registered for salmon net fishing in Bristol Bay, and modify multiple vessel specifications, as follows:

Revised Language

5 AAC 06.341. Vessel specifications and operations.

- (a) **No vessel registered for Bristol Bay Salmon Driftnet Fishing may be more than 36 feet in overall hull length.** An anchor roller may not extend more than **sixteen inches beyond the 36-foot overall hull length**, and any portion that extends beyond the **36-foot overall length** may not be more than **twelve inches** in width or height.
- (b) For the purposes of this section,
 - (1) Anchor Roller; means a device used solely in aid of deploying and retrieving anchor gear, and does not provide any additional flotation, planing surface to the vessel.
 - (2) Fish Drop-out Basket; means a device used to prevent the loss of fish from a gillnet after the fish leaves the water and before it is brought on board the vessel, a fish drop-out basket does not provide any additional flotation to the vessel.
 - (3) Gillnet Roller; means a device used solely in aid of deploying and retrieving drift gillnet gear, a gillnet roller does not provide any additional flotation vessel **and may not extend more than Twelve inches beyond the vessels transom.**
 - (4) Outdrives; means part of the propulsion system of a vessel used for either steering or thrust, an outdrive does not provide any additional flotation to the vessel.
 - (5) Outdrives, water jet guards; means a device of skeletal or structural construction used to protect the outdrive/water jet unit of a vessel, **an outdrive/ water jet guard may be incorporated in conjunction with a fish catcher and provides safety from side, and top incursions, below water jet guards mean a device used to protect jets and steering nozzels from shallow water groundings and gear entanglement, guards and trim gaurds located directly beneath individual jets and steering nozzels any solid surface applied may only be equal to or less than the jets intake opening beneath the hull** and does not provide any additional flotation.
 - (6) Overall Length; means the straight-line measurement between the extremities of the vessels bow and transom, but does not include fish drop-out baskets, anchor rollers, gillnet rollers, trim tabs, outdrives, jet drives, jet drive or outdrive guards, **steering rudders, boarding ladders, cooling systems, exhaust tips, exhaust baffles, jet housing.**
 - (7) Trim Tab; means an extension of the bottom of a vessel, at the transom or jet housing, which is no more than 18 inches long at its longest point, Trim Tabs do not provide any increased flotation, and their function is to provide trim to a vessel while underway. **Trim Tabs may be incorporated with water jet reverse nozzels and gaurds and do not provide additional flotation.**

(8) Water Jet; means part of propulsion system of a vessel used for either steering or thrust, a “water jet drive” does not provide additional flotation to the vessel, and may require adaptive boxes aft of the transom, these boxes should be no greater than eight inches deep and eight inches from the sides, top and bottom of the jets manufacturers recommended mounting instructions.

(9) Safety&Equipment; means part of the vessels safety accessories, cooling systems, rudders, exhaust tips, baffles, and Jet mount housings, all equipment listed may not exceed beyond eighteen inches from the

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current 32-foot vessel length for the Bristol Bay Drift fleet has become a safety and quality issue among the entire fleet. To meet the quality standards imposed by fish processors and market demands, the 32 foot length severely limits fish hold capacities, refrigeration efficiencies and effectiveness. Meeting these quality standards has become a necessary effort to achieve financial incentives by all processors these some of these incentives require floating fish in refrigerated sea water. Filling the vessels fish holds with both fish and refrigerated seawater compromises the safety and stability of the fishing vessels under the existing regulations.

Current regulation 5AAC06.341 (Section A). provides for a hull length of 32 feet from bow to stern transom. 5AAC06.341 (Section B) provides language that regulates

1.Anchor Rollers, 2. Fish Drop-Out Baskets, 3. Gillnet Rollers, 4. Outdrives, 5. Outdrive Guard, 6. Overall Lenth, 7. Trim Tabs.

The language in section B has many grey areas making the current regulation technically hard to enforce.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Developing this proposal was in conjunction with a wide collaboration of Bristol Bay Drift Fishermen looking to maximize safety and quality incentives.

PROPOSED BY: Abe Williams

(EF-F26-048)
