ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

CHARGE STATEMENT FOR COMMITTEE ON COASTAL EROSION IMPACTS ON SET GILLNET OPERATIONS

2015-279-FB

At its 2015 Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, the Alaska Board of Fisheries’ (board) heard testimony from stakeholders across the Bay that coastal erosion and sediments filling in along coastal areas is advancing and becoming a problem in a number of areas with set gillnet operations. The board heard two proposals that were directly impacted by coastal erosion and shifting natural environments.

In its review of these proposals, the board discussed that this issue will become more widespread, that the board does not have a policy with criteria that will create a consistent platform to make decisions regarding issues of coastal erosion and shifting natural environments, and that the board does not have all the legal and permitting powers necessary to effect comprehensive solutions for interested parties.

As a result of this discussion, the board is creating a temporary committee to evaluate and create criteria the board may use when deliberating on proposals that are effected by impacts from coastal erosion and shifting natural environments. The board requests the assistance of the Departments of Law and Natural Resources to assist in helping to scope the criteria.

The committee, with Members Reed Morisky and Bob Mumford, will provide an update at the board’s 2016 AYK meeting in January.

Vote: 7-0
December 8, 2015
Anchorage, Alaska

[Signature]
Tom Kluberton, Chair
Alaska Board of Fisheries