

**PROPOSAL 25 – 5 AAC 06.100. Description of area.** Expand district boundary lines, as follows:

I propose that when area managers recognize the need and opportunity to create a more valuable and orderly fishery, they have a set of additional boundary lines to utilize at their discretion. I envision these new lines to be in addition to the existing north/south lines primarily on the east side districts.

The offshore distance of the new sets of corners would remain relatively the same as the existing corner of each specific district. The subsequent lines perpendicular to the shore would have tentatively three optional distances further up or down the shoreline at potentially 3 mile intervals. The obvious candidates for these shoreward line extension options would be the Naknek Johnston hill line, North and South Egegik lines, and the North Ugashik line.

These new set of lines could be managed per EO.

Details and GPS coordinates to be determined.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The issue that I am addressing is the inherent degradation of salmon quality, and the disorderly line fisheries created through the application of compacted terminus fisheries. The ADF&G does not have adequate flexibility in designating district specific openings in order to maximize the value of the fishery and conduct orderly fisheries once harvestable numbers are recognized. With the genetic study results of WASSIP, we know the relatively marginal interception rates of adjacent river systems and we can now better manage for optimum escapement goals, quality, and a much more orderly fishery. The current situations of concentrated combat line fishing are unnecessarily producing poor quality salmon, decreasing ex-vessel and tax values, gear damage, and injuries.

**PROPOSED BY:** Larry K. Christensen (EF-C15-130)  
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**PROPOSAL 26 – 5 AAC 06.200. Fishing districts and sections.** Create new general fishing sections that are in effect following achievement of escapement goals, or July 17, until July 27, as follows:

At the end of the season when the escapement goals are met for the Naknek/Kvichak, Egegik and Ugashik Districts, or the 48-hour transfer is no longer required (July 17), fishing will be allowed in two new general district sections. The first would connect the Naknek Section-Johnston Hill Line and the North Line of Egegik running approximately three miles off shore. The second would connect the South Line of Egegik to the North Line of Ugashik running approximately three miles offshore. These new sections would remain open until July 27.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** At the end of the season, the fishery becomes very competitive at the northern and southern boundaries and only a few boats share the harvest.

**PROPOSED BY:** Kurt Johnson (EF-C15-118)

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**PROPOSAL 27 – 5 AAC 39.280. Identification of stationary fishing gear.** Require that a CFEC permit holder’s name displayed on a set gillnet site marking sign complies with the same character size marking requirements for permit numbers, as follows (*This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.*):

Setnet markings signs shall include the name of the permit holder in letters at least 6" high and 1" wide, the same as the vessel name for drift vessels. The permit holder may include a phone number for contact.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently drift boats and set net skiffs are required to have their Alaska Department of Fish and Game numbers displayed with 12" letters, drift vessels are required to have the vessel name in 6" letters. Normally a vessel or skiff can be contacted by physically approaching or by VHF using the vessel name. The regulations require the name of the fishermen operating a set gillnet to display the name of the fisherman operating it but there are no requirements for the size of the display of the fisherman’s name. They could legally be 1" or less high and marking pen size thin. Set net identification signs can be a great distance, especially at low tide. In an emergency or other concern, the fisherman’s name allows other to contact the fisherman by phone, VHF, or other means, and do so directly, especially when resources to track by Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission are closed. Require the set net fisherman’s name to be in letters at least 6" high and at least 1" wide.

**PROPOSED BY:** Dan Barr (EF-C15-084)

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**PROPOSAL 28 – 5 AAC 39.280. Identification of stationary fishing gear.** Change the character size requirements for set gillnet marking signs, as follows (*This proposal will be heard at the Bristol Bay Finfish meeting, and heard and deliberated on at the Statewide Finfish meeting.*):

Insert "twelve inches" where now says "six inches" and add "with lines at least one inch wide."

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently drift boats and setnet skiffs are required to have their Alaska Department of Fish and Game numbers displayed with 12" letters, but shore side set net markings are only required to be six inches. With 20/20 vision, the maximum readable distance is only 200'. Regulations are now inconsistent, and

whereas driftnet vessels and set net skiffs can be easily approached for identification, a set net sign for contacting the permit holder for safety or resource issues can be at a distance of up to 1,200'.

**PROPOSED BY:** Dan Barr (EF-C15-086)

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**PROPOSAL 29 – 5 AAC 06.335. Minimum distance between units of gear.** Allow a set gillnet permit holder to operate and deploy gillnet gear seaward of the permit holder's own set gillnet, and within the permit holder's setnet site, as follows:

5 AAC 06.335 Minimum distance between units of gear needs to include the wording "Except that a CFEC permit holder may operate seaward of their own set gillnet."

5 AAC 06.335. Minimum distance between units of gear. is amended to read:

(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. **Except that a CFEC permit holder may operate seaward of their own set gillnet.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** In the Egegik District it has been common practice for individual permit holders to have a gap between their 50 fathom set gillnet that is operated on a single site. This allows for easier and safer maneuvering under the running line. It has recently been pointed out that this practice is in conflict with 5 AAC 06.335 Minimum distance between units of gear.

**PROPOSED BY:** Laura Zimin (EF-C15-064)

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**PROPOSAL 30 – 5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.** Change the description of set gillnet exemptions that allow operations where beaches at mean low tide are not connected to either exposed land or land not covered at high tide, by deleting references to regulatory markers, as follows:

5 AAC 06.331(i) is amended to read:

(i) A set gillnet must be set on an area of beach that, at mean low tide, is connected by exposed land to the shore or to land not covered at high tide, except that in the Togiak District between **a point on the southernmost mouth of the Kulukak River at 58° 54.94' N. lat., 159° 43.81' W. long. to a point at the eastern entrance to Metervik Bay at 58° 54.94' N. lat., 159° 43.81' W. long.** [THE SOUTHERNMOST ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER LOCATED AT THE MOUTH OF THE KULUKAK RIVER AND THE ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER LOCATED AT THE EASTERN ENTRANCE TO METERVIK BAY], between Rocky Point and 160° 20' W. long., and between Togiak Reef and **a point near Mt. Aeolus at 58° 54.82' N. lat., 160° 44.06' W. long.** [THE ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER AT MT.

AEOLUS], no part of a set gillnet may be more than 500 feet from the mean high tide mark and the set gillnet must be substantially perpendicular to the shoreline.

5 AAC 06.331(n) is amended to read:

(n) In the Nushagak District, .....

...

(2) from the cannery dock at Clark's Point to [AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER AT] First Creek at XX' N. lat. XX' W. long., 500 feet from the mean high tide mark, or to the minus three foot low tide mark, whichever location is closer to the mean high tide mark;

(3) from First Creek at XX' N. lat., XX' W. long. to [AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER AT FIRST CREEK TO AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER AT] Third Creek at XX' N. lat., XX' W. long., 700 feet from the mean high tide mark;

(4) from [AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER AT] Third Creek at XX' N. lat., XX' W. long. to [AN ADF&G REGULATORY MARKER AT] Etolin Point at 58° 39.37' N. lat., 158° 19.31' W. long., 1,000 feet from the mean high tide mark.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Remove reference to department regulatory markers from the regulations describing gillnet specifications and operations. The department has switched to latitude and longitude coordinates to define open and closed areas and no longer maintains regulatory markers. Removing references to regulatory markers that are no longer maintained will help clarify the regulations.

(Editor note: Complete coordinates were not available at the deadline for proposals and will be available prior to the meeting.)

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F15-007)  
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**PROPOSAL 220 - 5 AAC 06.XXX. Vessel specifications and operations.** Prohibit net barges, floating processors, tenders, and hard fixed buoys in waters of the Egegik District during open drift gillnet fishing periods, as follows:

All net barges, floating processors, tenders and hard fixed buoys to be removed in open water fishing for the drift fleet, 30 min before the opener to 1 hour after high water.

All net barges, floating processors, tenders and hard fixed buoys to be anchored outside the west line. Only to come into the district if the Egegik district is closed to the drift fleet.

Any fixed net barges or not-in-rotation tenders being used on standby outside the Egegik district. To ease the constriction of the Egegik district.

The area behind Goose Point will be the new Tender Alley, or the area for tenders and net barges. This area typically over the years is not a heavily fished area and is also protected during bad weather.

As in the Naknek district all tenders and net barges are anchored outside the district. Egegik needs to follow suit to allow more fishing grounds, so as to ease the tensions of a constricted fishing area and for safety concerns to crew and vessels that get wrapped around the buoys and anchored vessels while the district is open for drift fisherman.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Tenders and net barges anchored in/on the open fishing grounds of the Egegik district from inside Coffee Point or around Coffee Point to the outside west line of district. (known as Tender Alley) There should not be fixed or fully anchored buoys (net barges, processors and derelict vessels) or vessels anchored in open fishing waters during drift net district openers.

It is a dangerous situation of wrapping nets and gear around anchor buoys, tenders and non-useable floating hazards.

**PROPOSED BY:** Marc Vance

(EF-C15-019)

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**PROPOSAL 221 - 5 AAC 06.341. Vessel specifications and operations.** Prohibit tenders, fish buyers, and fish transport vessels from anchoring within 1,500 feet of set gillnet sites, as follows:

Additional subparagraph in 5 AAC 06.341 Vessel Specs and Operation to address tender to set net distance.

**5 AAC 06.341 Vessel specifications and operations.**

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**(c) No tender, buyer or fish transport vessel shall willfully or intentionally interfere with commercial fishing operations, sites and gear. No tender, buyer or fish transport vessel shall not take mooring, anchor or remain stationary for an extended period within 1,500 feet of an operational set net site.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The issue is tenders encroaching upon set net sites to impede drifters from drifting legal distances from set net sites. In Togiak there is a tender owner that also operates multiple set net sites and he uses his tender to block drifters from fishing legally outside of his sites.

Alaska Statue Sec. 16.10.055 Interference with commercial fishing gear. A person who willfully or with reckless disregard of the consequences, interferes with or damages the commercial fishing gear of another person is guilty of a misdemeanor. For the purposes of this section “interference” means the physical disturbance of gear which results in economic loss of fishing time, the “reckless disregard of consequences” means a lack of consideration for the consequences of one’s acts in a manner that is reasonably likely to damage the property of another.

**PROPOSED BY:** Togiak Fish and Game Advisory Committee (EF-C15-056)  
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