

PROPOSAL 158

5 AAC 39.115. Designation of salmon net registration area.

Allow a person holding CFEC permits for multiple salmon net areas to commercial fish for salmon in more than one net area per year, as follows:

This regulation would state, as of the 2022 salmon season and moving forward Bristol Bay permit holders both set and drift gill net will be allowed to own and use another salmon permit anywhere in the state of Alaska. Giving them opportunity to harvest all summer. Another vessel must be used to harvest the fish as it has always been.

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What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? With Bristol bay being such a condensed fishery it would be nice as a young fisherman to be able to own a seine permit along with my Bristol Bay permit so I can fish all summer. Currently the way it's set up my wife and I own Bristol bay permits and fish two Bristol bay boats. Yet we can't own a kodiak seine permit and go fish around our home waters for august and September. It would allow us to create longer employment for our crews as well as help us maximize the summer salmon runs. There are plenty of permits not being fished in kodiak every summer and boats that sit idle. It would allow us to put more money into the Alaskan economy. We'd be fishing a completely separate vessel then our bay boats. We are a small family owned business, this wouldn't be monopolizing anything. It would simply allow us to take advantage of the whole summer.

Bristol Bay fisherman should be allowed to fish other salmon fisheries around the state since our fishery is sometimes as condensed as 3-4 weeks a season. Meanwhile southeast and kodiak guys get 3-4 months of fishing. I don't understand why you can't continue to set net or seine another fishery after the bay with different equipment. Young eager fisherman are willing to put the work in yet the state won't allow us to own another salmon permit and fish it the same season. Many of these other salmon fisheries around the state are losing many participants every year with graying of the fleet. There is a group of hard working fisherman who'd like to be able to fish another fishery after Bristol Bay is over..

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