

proposals: 45 -53 permit stacking

I am writing to you to express my opposition to all the permit stacking proposals. The intent of drift permit stacking was to help struggling local fisherman that had been pushed out of the fishery to have an opportunity to get back into the fishery and potentially keep permits from leaving the watershed. It was also intended to remove gear from the water but i believe has had the opposite effect and the majority of D permits are coming from latent permits and not permits that have been being fished. With the support of BBEDC and the programs available to watershed residents to upgrade vessels [\$30,000), RSW upgrades/install and permit purchase assistance the reasons for permit stacking [D permit] is no longer warranted. Ever since D permits have been allowed there are repeated attempts to expand the stacking of permits at every board cycle as seen in proposals 45 through 53. If you allow permit stacking to expand i foresee a consolidation of our fishery. With more gear pretty soon they will want bigger boats, bigger districts and if you don't have the money available to invest you will be left behind and pushed out of the fishery. I am a life long set net fisherman and do like the idea of being able to own and use 2 permits but my fear that it will justify drift fisherman to use and expand the amount of gear they are able to use overrides any desire to benefit from set net permit stacking. There for i am apposed to any and all proposals to enhance permit stacking. Thank you for your time.

Travis Ball