

November 20, 2015

TO: Alaska Fish Board
FROM: Koliganek Tribal Village Council

Koliganek Village Council SUPPORTS the EXISTING F/G regulations and OPPOSES the changes in the Regulations listed below.

1. Keep existing permit stacking regulations for BB Drift permits. We do not support one person owning and fishing 2 permits for extra drift fishing net. We believe the existing regulation's intent was to help a person who has a permit find a boat to fish on, even if they do not have the money or experience to fish their own boat.
2. Do not expand the permit stacking option for setnets.
3. Keep 32' limit on fishboats.
4. Keep 48 hour transfer waiting period during sockeye salmon season.

We are concerned that the ability for local, village fishers to buy and fish an additional permit are very limited, and opening it up for 1 person owning and fishing 2 permits would tend to reduce the permits of locals and increase the percent of fish caught by high liners at the expense of poorer village fishers. This argument also holds true for changing the 32' limit, and eliminating 48 hour transfer period. Permit stacking for setnets will also tend to reduce the number of permit holders which we feel will be at the expense of Bristol Bay resident fishers.

We believe that the local CDQ organization, BBEDC, has supported locals buying permits, and the number of local village fishers is slowing increasing because of this.

Please do not change it and make it more difficult for Bristol Bay village fishers, like the fishers in our village, Koliganek, to enter and remain in the fishery and support their families.

In Behalf of Koliganek Village Council,



Herman Nelson, President
Koliganek Village Council
Koliganek Alaska