

Traditional Council of Togiak  
P.O. Box 310  
Togiak, Alaska 99678

RC 059

Alaska Board of Fisheries  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

December 2, 2015

Dear Alaska Board of Fisheries,

The Traditional Council of Togiak OPPOSES all permit stacking proposals for both Bristol Bay setnet and drift gillnet permit holders.

We are extremely concerned about the outward migration of permits leaving the Bristol Bay Region, and the ability of our residents to actively compete against those with the bigger boat operations. If permit stacking is allowed – it is more than likely that the majority of permits will be purchased by non-residents and non-locals – which was highlighted in the CFEC Report No. 12-02-N. We strongly feel it will benefit the wealthy and disrupt the majority of local residents that do not have the financial access to purchase an additional permit. Also, once the permits get purchased by non-residents that will reduce the amount of permits available on the market, which will inherently increase the barrier for local residents to enter the fishery. In essence, we believe that permit stacking is absolutely the wrong approach to address our concerns with the fishery.

We recognize BBEDC's efforts to support local residents to purchase permits, and would like to see the amount of watershed permit holders increase in the near future.

Please do not allow permit stacking within the Commercial Bristol Bay Salmon Fishery, as it may have detrimental impacts for our communities and families that depend on our fisheries.

Thank you for your consideration,

  
Jimmy Coupchiak  
Traditional Council of Togiak