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

November 30, 2015

Dear Alaska Board of Fisheries,

The Curyung Tribal Council 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 to be allowed within the Bristol Bay Salmon Fishery, as it may have detrimental impacts for our communities and families that depend on our fishery for several generations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thomas Tilden
Curyung Tribal Council