

12c 65

Proposal: 42,43

My name is Travis Ball, I am a life long set net fisherman in the Nushagak district. I would like to express my opposition to proposals 42 and 43. If passes I believe would create a super fleet of mobile set netters that would have huge repercussions for other set netters in the Nushagak. Instead of having to compete with the usual set net effort in any statistical area there would be a potential instant influx of set netters whenever fishing gets hot and heavy in any existing statistical area. not only would this devalue my shore lease because of more uncertainty in effort and catch but has the potential to cause kayos and conflicts between set netters and an un-orderly fishery. I believe the existing 48 hour regulation and division of statistical areas is paramount to maintaining an orderly set net fishery. As a set netter in the Nushagak I fish on Ekuk beach and we use screw anchors installed at the lowest tide possible and utilize a rope and pulley system operated with trucks from the beach to pull our nets in and out of the water. I am not mobile through out the bay because of not having a skiff to operate my gear. If these proposals were to pass and i was forced to stop fishing due to market limits or any other unforeseen circumstance set netters with skiffs would be able to immediately come down and anchor their nets out in-between existing sites due to running lines installed on existing shore leases and have the potential to destroy my season by getting entangled in my running lines and destroying my gear used to operate my net. If my gear was interfered with and messed up i would not be able to fix the problem unless it was a negative low tide witch only happens once sometimes twice a month, resulting in potential major losses for me and any fishers on Ekuk Beach. Thank you for you consideration

Travis Ball