

PROPOSAL 15

5 AAC 01.620. Lawful gear and gear specifications and 5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

Prohibit the use of monofilament or gillnet mesh in dip nets, as follows:

Prohibit the use of monofilament or gill net mesh material in dip nets used in the subsistence and personal use fisheries of the Upper Copper River District.

Subsistence Finfish Fishery.

5 AAC 01.620. Lawful gear and gear specifications.

(1) In the Glennallen Subdistrict by fish wheel or dip nets;

...

(7) the use of dip nets constructed of monofilament or gill net mesh material is prohibited.

Personal Use Fishery.

5 AAC 77.591. Copper River Personal Use Dip Net Salmon Fishery Management Plan.

...

(c) Salmon may be taken only by dip nets. **The use of dip nets constructed of monofilament or gill net mesh material is prohibited.**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The use of monofilament or gill net mesh material in dip nets entangles the fish, makes it more difficult to release, and causes an increased level of harm to Chinook salmon intended for release. Being able to release Chinook salmon unharmed is particularly a concern when Chinook salmon abundance is low.

PROPOSED BY: Wrangell-St.Elias National Park Subsistence Resource Commission

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