

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the board.  
Thank you for being here today, and providing this opportunity for us to testify

My name is Mike Davis.  
I am here representing myself.

I have fished here in Bristol Bay for over 40 years.  
I own and operate a set net operation on the Nushagak and also own a Bristol bay drift permit

I am here to testify on a number of proposals before you regarding subsistence, Wood River, and Permit stacking

### **Subsistence**

I am in support of the subsistence proposals 18 & 19. It's important that local people have more time, more days and more ways to fish.

### **Regarding Wood River**

**I am not in favor of making any changes in the way the Wood River Special Harvest area as it is currently managed.**

### **I do NOT support Wood River Proposal 38.**

This proposal takes away an important tool of area biologist, Tim Sands, to manage the Wood River escapement. It's important that the area biologist has the authority to make decisions as to when and how to stop the excess fish going up the Wood River.

This proposal, if passed, would be a step backwards for management.

### **I do NOT support Wood River Proposal 39.**

Proposal 39 that would allow concurrent opening for set net and drift operation would create potential hazardous situations between the set net operations and the drift fleet in the Wood River. The Wood is a small, in river special harvest area with sand bars, and narrow channels that is not conducive to having a lot of gear in the water. I've fished it when both gear types were deployed there – it's dangerous.

This proposal, if passed, would also take a way a management tool of the department.

**I DO support Wood River Proposal 40.**

I am in favor of the concept of this proposal to set up a lottery for the first sites- even though you may need to come up with new language for it to be adopted..

The current system is a “free for all” – first net in the water that claims the site. People have camp there for weeks trying to hold the site. Signs get taken down and destroyed, I know a number of fisherman who won’t fish there because of the bullying and intimidation that goes on; and the disparity in the catch amounts.

Some sanity needs to be brought into the equation to make it more fair.

**Regarding Permit Stacking**

**I do NOT support Proposal 24, 25, 26, and 27** all of which would allow permit stacking.

Permit stacking in these proposals would restrict opportunities and consolidates the resources and wealth with fewer people.

Keeping the current system – one permit, one person with two permits allowed per boat - provides opportunities for new people to get into the fishery more easily, without having to have a boat and all the equipment.

Adopting these proposals will force individuals to purchase additional permits to stay competitive.

**In Conclusion**

I am in support Subsistence Proposals 18 and 19.

I do NOT support Wood River proposals 38 and 39. I am not in favor of making any changes in the way the Wood River Special Harvest area is currently managed.

I do NOT support Proposal 24, 25, 26, and 27. These Permit stacking proposals would present financial barriers to many and will decrease opportunities for local people to access the fishery.

Thank you for providing this forum for our community and region.