PROPOSAL 128

5 AAC 01.720. Lawful gear and gear specifications.

Allow use of set gillnets in all Southeast Alaska area subsistence salmon fisheries, as follows:

Fish may be taken by gear listed in 5 AAC 01.010(a) except as may be restricted under the terms of a subsistence fishing permit and except as follows:

- (1) in District 13, Redoubt Bay, gillnet or seine gear may not be used to take salmon in any waters of the bay closed to commercial salmon fishing;
- (2) a set gillnet [MAY NOT BE] used to take salmon may only be anchored or fixed at one end except;
 - (A) the mainstream and side channels, but not the tributaries, of the Chilkat River from the terminus to one mile upstream of Wells Bridge; and
 - (B) District 5 in Shipley Bay, not more than 100 yards from the terminus of Shipley Creek;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The intent of the proposal is to allow subsistence users to use set gillnets when harvesting salmon. The proposed regulation allows set gillnets to be anchored only at one end, which has the effect of requiring nets to be closely attended. The current regulation prohibiting set gillnets is unnecessarily restrictive, as subsistence users should be allowed to use the most efficient legal gear type available to them. In particular, allowing the use of set gillnets will allow people to fish alone more effectively. Managers will still be able to use permit restrictions to address issues at specific sites.