

**YDFDA: Suggested Language for Proposal 82: prohibition of sinking gillnets**  
**Prohibit sinking gillnets in Districts 1 and 2 of the Yukon Area from May 1 through September 30. Sinking gillnets would be allowed in Districts 3 – 6 year-round.**

**PROPOSAL 82**

**5 AAC 39.250. Gillnet specifications and operations.**

Modify the dates sinking of gillnets is allowed in the Yukon Area from October 1 to April 30, as follows:

5 AAC 39.250(d) is amended to read:

...

(d) The float line and floats of gillnets must be floating on the surface of the water while the net is fishing, unless natural conditions cause the net to temporarily sink. **In the Yukon Area, this restriction applies only to Districts 1 and 2 and only from May 1 to September 30 (5 AAC 05.100).** The restriction of this subsection does not apply in the Arctic-Kotzebue Area (5 AAC 03.100), the Norton Sound-Port Clarence Area (5 AAC 04.100), the Yukon Area (5 AAC 05.100) **from October 1 to April 30**, the Kuskokwim Area (5 AAC 07.100), and the Kodiak Area (5 AAC 18.100).

...

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal would modify the dates when gillnets are allowed to be fished without the float line on the surface of the water in the Yukon Area. During salmon seasons, from May 1 to September 30, the float line and floats must be floating on the surface. Submerged gillnets are less visible and may be difficult to observe if fishing illegally during closed periods. Allowing a gillnet to be in a fishing condition with floats not visible on the surface of the water is a navigation hazard.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F22-062)

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