

RC \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: Ugashik Village Setnetters

Date: November 29, 2022

Supporting information for Proposal 33 (extend the offshore distance for setnets in Ugashik Village):

The Ugashik Village setnet area has been in existence since 1927 making it one of the original setnet area within Bristol Bay. The village nets (11 of them) make up the entire fishing effort within statistical area 321-50, drift gillnets are not allowed to fish in this stat area. Ten out of the eleven sites concur that the maximum offshore distance should be amended by the board to 800 feet from the 18-foot-high tide mark. (See Map)

During the 2012 BB BOF meeting the offshore distance was amended from 1,000 ft from the 18-foot-high tide mark to the current 600 feet. This decision was largely predicated on the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) finding (2011) that the 1,000-foot distance blocked the river enough to constitute an obstruction to navigation at most tidal stages. The proposed offshore limit of 800 feet from the 18-foot-high-tide mark takes the 2011 USCG finding and the 2012 BOF action into account. We (Ugashik Village fisherman) feel that the proposed 800-foot restriction will more than provide for adequate space to navigate the river.

The recent history (last 4 seasons) of this area has seen an extensive mudbank develop along the inshore end of the setnet fishing area. This impedes us from fishing as effectively as we have in the past (decrease in functional fishing time). The current offshore distance limitation of 600 feet from the 18-foot-high tide mark precludes us from fishing the full extent of our allowable gear and denies us the efficient use of the fishing time allowed. We have lost an estimated 20% of our opportunity due to fewer hours of available fishing time because our nets are not in the water. (See pictures)

In 2016 the BOF adopted the "Criteria for Board Deliberations on Commercial Set Gillnet Proposals Impacted by Coastal Erosion" (2016-283-FB) which outlines the criteria that the board will consider and weigh when deliberating on a proposal related to set gillnet sites impacted by coastal erosion. The case stated above clearly fits Criteria #1 which states that issues that arise from land that that has either eroded or accreted through natural or artificial causes contiguous to the leasehold. (See 2016-283-FB)

We strongly encourage the Board to pass proposal 33 as is so this long standing setnet-only fishing area can continue to support the local villages in the area and the fisherman.



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## ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

### CRITERIA FOR BOARD DELIBERATION ON COMMERCIAL SET GILLNET PROPOSALS IMPACTED BY COASTAL EROSION

2016-283-FB

The Alaska Board of Fisheries will consider and weigh the following criteria when deliberating on proposals related to commercial set gillnet sites impacted by coastal erosion. These criteria include, but may not be limited to:

1. Whether the proposal seeks to address issues related to land that has eroded or accreted through natural or artificial causes contiguous to the leasehold.
2. Whether the proposal describes the historical use of the site, and if applicable, adjacent or nearby site(s).
3. Any positive and/or negative effects from the proposal to adjacent or nearby site(s), and/or other gear types.
4. Whether the proposal will change the number of sites legally fished.
5. If the proposal has allocative impacts, the board will apply the allocation criteria.
6. Whether the site conforms to state statutes and regulations.

Date Adopted: February 29, 2016  
Anchorage, Alaska

VOTE: 7-0

  
Tom Kluberton, Chairman

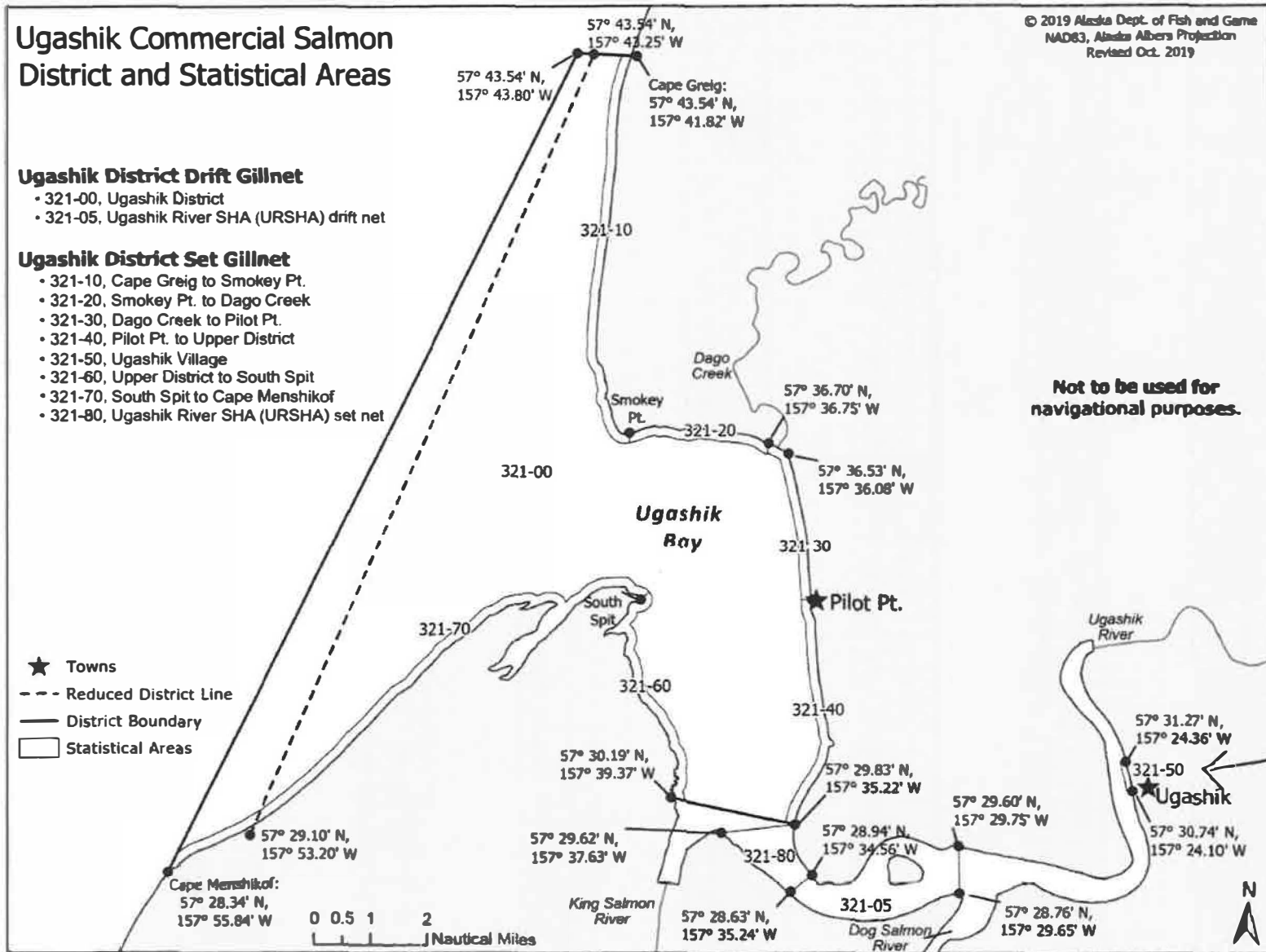
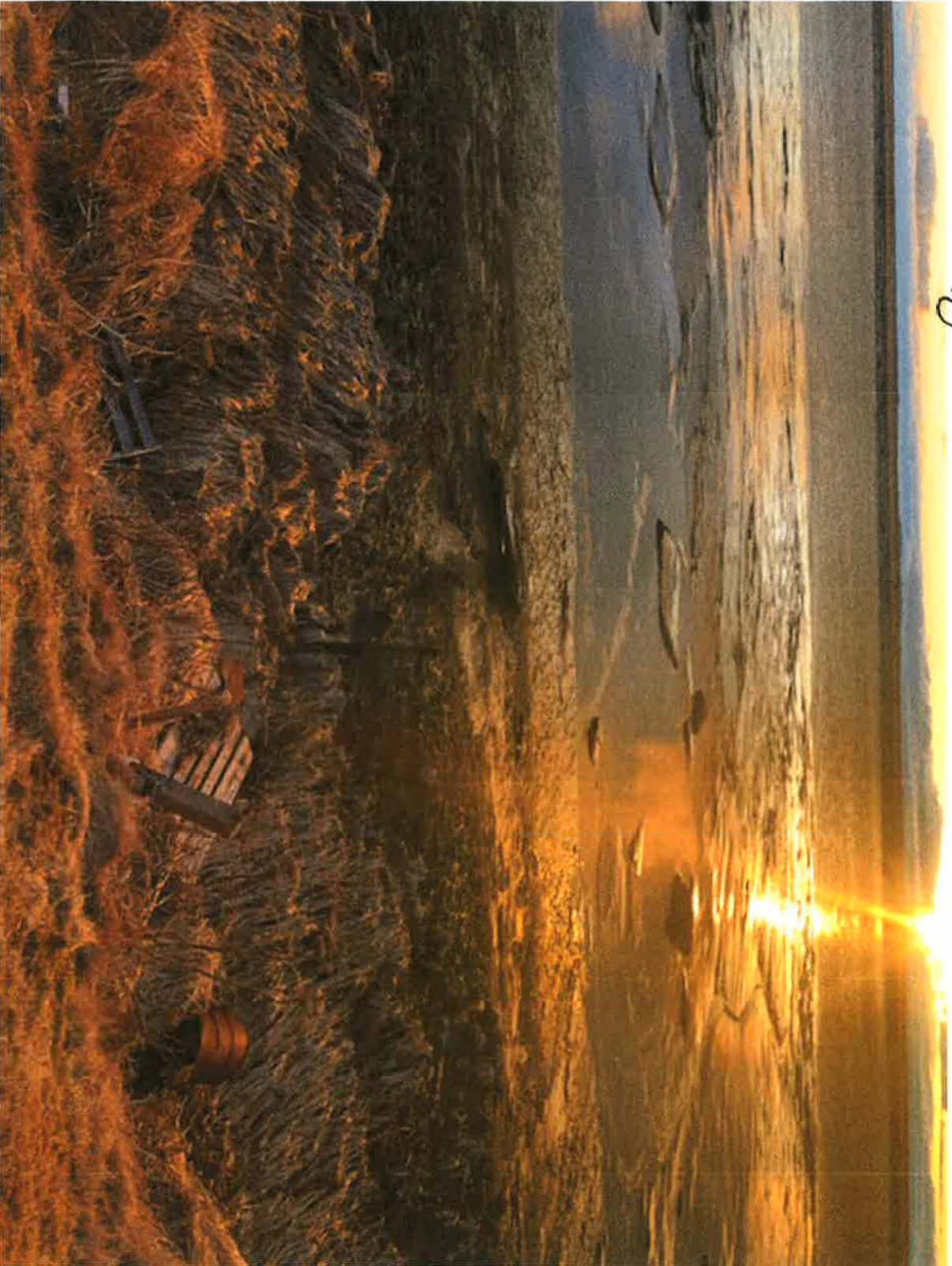


Figure 34-1.—Ugashik Commercial Salmon District and Statistical Areas, Bristol Bay.

Ugashik Village Setnet Area



Tide stage is 3/4 out going to a zero tide.



Ugashik Village Setne <sup>RC26</sup> Area  
Tide stage is  $\frac{3}{4}$  out to a  
zero tide

18 foot high tide  
↓

