<u>PROPOSAL 100</u> – 5 AAC 01.270. Lawful gear and gear specifications and operation. Establish subsistence beach seine specifications in the Kuskokwim Area, as follows:

5 AAC 01.270 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(p) A beach seine may not exceed 50 fathoms in length or 100 meshes in depth. Seine mesh size may not exceed three and one-half inches stretched measure.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Beach seines are legal gear under current subsistence fishing regulations, though there are no specifications. Therefore, any combination of net length, depth, and mesh size could be operated within the Kuskokwim Area as a beach seine. Under current regulations, a very large or very long beach seine could potentially capture king salmon. Because of king salmon conservation concerns, it is prudent to ensure beach seine gear will not cause king salmon mortality. This will provide clarification and set maximum allowable gear specifications for beach seines in the Kuskokwim Area.