

**PROPOSAL 43**

**5 AAC 24.367. Main Bay Salmon Hatchery Harvest Management Plan.**

Clarify provisions for operation of drift gillnet and set gillnet gear in the Main Bay Subdistrict, as follows:

(c)

**(6) Notwithstanding pre-existing regulations, a drift operation cannot be deemed illegal upon deployment of a set net. The drift operation must have time to retrieve its gear and/or navigate to legal waters.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Lack of clarification on access to sockeye build ups in Main Bay. The Board of Fisheries intentions to maintain access for the drift fleet has slowly been eroded as enforcement does not focus efforts to keep set net crews from operating and deploying gear during openers. A drift operation needs to be able to retrieve its gear if it is deployed before a set net is deployed. This has kept the drift fleet from historic and allocated access to these buildups. The failure to recognize that a drift operation cannot be made illegal immediately by deployment of a set gillnet causes grief for all participants as well as ADFG enforcement personnel.

**PROPOSED BY:** Cordova District Fishermen United, Gillnet Division (HQ-F17-036)

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