

PROPOSAL 34

5 AAC 21.332. Seine specifications and operation.

Reduce the maximum length of seine gear in the Cook Inlet Area to 150 fathoms, as follows:

SOLUTION:

5 AAC 21.332 Seine specifications and operations (a) Purse seines, hand seines, hand purse seines, and beach seines may not be less than 90 fathoms in length and 100 meshes in depth, nor more than [250] **150** fathoms in length and 325 meshes in depth.

5 AAC 21.369. Lower Cook Inlet Seine Fishery Management Plan

When the Board of Fisheries authorized the use of power purse seines in the Cook Inlet salmon fishery, the board was concerned that the more efficient gear might allow the fleet to increase its harvest of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks. The department shall manage the seine fleet so that its efforts are directed on Lower Cook Inlet salmon stocks. The board recognizes that some incidental catch of Upper Cook Inlet salmon stocks will occur while the seine fishery is managed for Lower Cook Inlet salmon stocks.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? ISSUE:

Length of Cook Inlet Seine Nets intercepting and increasing harvest of Upper Cook Inlet Sockeye as 5 AAC 21.369 anticipated. 250 fathoms is too long they closes off entire bays.

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