

**PROPOSAL 25**

**5 AAC 01.620. Lawful gear and gear specifications.**

Establish allowable gear in the Prince William Sound freshwater finfish subsistence fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 01.620 is amended to read:

**(l) Gillnets used to take freshwater finfish may not exceed 100 feet in length, 8 feet in depth, and a mesh size no greater than 4 inches stretched measure and may only be used;**

**(1) for whitefish and suckers, all other species may not be retained and must be returned to the water; permit holders finding 5 or more lake trout in their net shall move their fishing location at least ¼ mile to avoid further catch of nontarget species;**

**(2) from October 1 – March 30; and**

**(3) in lakes.**

**(m) Fyke nets shall have an entrance funnel opening of no greater than 4 inches maximum straight-line distance between any two points.**

...

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** There are several gear restrictions imposed within permit stipulations in the Prince William Sound freshwater finfish subsistence fishery. These restrictions have been in place through the permit stipulations since statehood, reduce impacts to nontarget fish stocks, and are essential to maintaining a sustainable fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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