

PROPOSAL 38

5 AAC 06.331. Gillnet specifications and operations.

Limit the length of drift gillnet tows to 25 fathoms, as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 06.331 to limit the length of a tow line to 25 fathoms overall length.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Some vessels are using net tow lines in the range of 1000' in length. A combination of a 1000' towline and 1200' of net is a total gear length of 2200' off of the towpoint. This configuration of gear can create problems with safety, fairness, and grounded nets.

With increasing presence of shallow water boats it can create navigation hazard to have that much gear trailing a vessel.

This gear style lends itself to fishing with a grounded net.

I don't feel that this style of fishing is in the intent of drift gillnet operation.

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(EF-F22-091)
