

**PROPOSAL 83**

**5 AAC 77.171. Lawful gear for personal use finfish fishing.**

After August 15, a person may not take salmon with a gillnet that has a mesh size greater than six inches in the Yukon Area Personal Use Salmon Fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 77.171(a) is amended to read:

...

(a) In Subdistrict 6-C, finfish may be taken for personal use only by set gillnets and fish wheels as follows:

(1) a person may not operate more than one type of gear at the same time for commercial, personal use, and subsistence purposes;

(2) the aggregate length of a set gillnet may not exceed 150 fathoms;

(3) a person may not set or operate personal use fishing gear within 200 feet of other operating commercial, personal use, or subsistence fishing gear;

(4) a gillnet or fish wheel may not obstruct more than one-half the width of any fish stream and any channel or side channel of a fish stream;

(5) a household may not operate more than one fish wheel; [.]

**(6) after August 15, a person may not take salmon with a gillnet that has a mesh size greater than six inches.**

...

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** This proposal would require gillnet mesh to be six inches or less in the personal use salmon fishery during the fall season in Subdistrict 6-C of the Tanana River drainage. This would make the use of gillnets six inch or less mesh size uniform between commercial, subsistence, and personal use fisheries. The department submitted a similar proposal for subsistence fishing during fall season within the Yukon Area. The smaller mesh sizes are already commonly used and would allow for greater protections for late-arriving king salmon and reduce directed harvest on larger, older fall chum salmon that make up a smaller portion of the population.

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

(HQ-F22-064)

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