

**PROPOSAL 140**

**5 AAC 21.330. Gear.**

Allow use of reef nets in the Upper Cook Inlet commercial salmon fishery as follows:

Write a new regulation that would allow setnet permit holders to use a Reef net in lieu of the Cook Inlet setnet permit in times where they are restricted in using their traditional gear. A permit holder must be on site when the Reef net is in operation. Up to 5 permit holders may operate a licensed Reef net float and net operation. Reef net operators must register their floating equipment with the ADF&G.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Recent article from the Bellingham, Washington area have shown the success of Reef net fishing in selective harvests of salmon. This may be used in selective or riverine areas of the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers to harvest abundant sockeye stocks when setnet fisheries are shut down on the ESSN to attain an OEG on Kenai bound King salmon.

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