

PROPOSAL 66

5 AAC 18.332. Seine specifications and operations.

Increase purse seine length in the Kodiak Management Area as follows:

AAC 18.332. Seine specifications and operations.

- (a) No purse seine or hand purse seine may be less than 100 fathoms or more than **250** [200] fathoms in length. No seine may be less than 100 meshes or more than 325 meshes in depth. At least 50 fathoms of a seine must be 150 meshes in depth.
- (b) One lead no more than 100 fathoms in length may be used with each purse seine or hand purse seine. The aggregate length of seine and lead may not exceed 250 fathoms. Leads must be removed from the water within two hours after a season or fishing period closure. Each lead must have at each end a buoy, cork, or float plainly and legibly marked with the operator's five-digit CFEC permit serial number.
- (c) Beach seines no less than 100 fathoms nor more than 225 fathoms in length may be used.
- (d) Beach seines may not be less than 100 meshes in depth.
- (e) When an anchor is used during the operation of a purse seine, hand purse seine, or beach seine, only the shoreward end of the seine or lead may be anchored; the seine shall be attached to the licensed vessel, and the vessel may not be anchored, except that, in the operation of a beach seine, an additional anchor, used to anchor the vessel to a beach, may be used only while retrieving the beach seine.
- (f) In the Mainland District, it is unlawful to take salmon with the assistance of an aircraft directing the operation of the seine gear.
- (g) Seine mesh size may not be more than seven inches.
- (h) A ring, strap, purse, or tow line may be attached to the corkline, ribline, or leadline of a beach seine. Hydraulic power may be used to set, retrieve, or purse a beach seine. A beach seine must be set from, and hauled to, a beach, or to a vessel anchored to a beach. One end of a beach seine must remain on a beach above the water surface at all times during the set.
- (i) A beach seine has ceased fishing when all of the leadline is out of the water.
- (j) Overlapping panels of net web may not be used in seine leads.
- (k) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 39.240, a CFEC purse seine salmon permit holder may use a registered salmon seine fishing vessel, when it has seine gear on board, to tow another registered salmon seine fishing vessel with seine gear on board if the permit holder for the vessel being towed is on board one of the vessels.
- (l) A purse seine is considered to have ceased fishing as specified in 5 AAC 39.260(c).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations were written during a time when leads were detachable, and common practice was to leave a lead anchored and to make sets off the end of the lead. This style of fishing has completely ceased to exist in the Kodiak Management Area, as every net is now utilizing a sown-in lead. The proposed language would align seine nets used in the Kodiak management area with other areas in the State such as Prince William Sound. The previous requirement for 7 inch lead web stemmed from concerns that these leads could be fished from skiffs as a separate net in order to rob creeks, however with the current fishing practice of sown-in leads, this concern is nullified.

PROPOSED BY: Kodiak Seiners Association

(HQ-F23-084)
