

PROPOSAL 175

5 AAC 39.105. Types of legal gear.

Modify dipnet mesh-size and configuration, as follow:

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(d)(24) a dip net is a bag-shaped net supported on all sides by a rigid frame; the maximum straight-line distance between any two points on the net frame, as measured through the net opening, may not exceed five feet; the depth of the bag must be at least one-half of the greatest straight-line distance, as measured through the net opening; no portion of the bag may be constructed of webbing that exceeds a stretched measurement of **3.5** [4.5] inches; the frame must be attached to a single rigid handle and be operated by hand **without the addition of a rope attached to the handle and boat to extend the reach of the dip net into the water beyond the length of the rigid handle;**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Local observations of catch-and-release mortality of Chinook salmon release from dip nets necessitates minimizing incidental mortality associated with selective dip net fishing in both subsistence, personal use, and commercial salmon fisheries.

We encourage the board to reduce the allowable stretched mesh size of dip net webbing from 4.5 inches to 3.0 inches statewide and require the rigid handle to be operated by hand without the addition of a rope attached to the handle and tied to the boat to extend the reach of the dip net into the water column beyond the length of the rigid handle.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Text

PROPOSED BY: Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission

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