

TO: ALASKA BOARD OF FISH
FROM: H. ROBIN SAMUELSEN JR. *Robin*
SUBJECT: BRISTOL BAY FISH PROPOSALS
DATE: DECEMBER 2015

My Name is Robin Samuelsen and I am a resident of Dillingham Alaska. I have fished in Bristol Bay for over 40 years, first as a setnetter with my grandma's and now as a drifter. I also sat on the Board of Fish as well as nine years on the NPFMC, the regulatory process is a very tough process at times. I have always looked out for Alaskan communities and local Alaskan fishermen within the regulatory processes I was involved in. We need to keep our communities sustainable and our fisheries do just that. Employment in our communities is about 15 to 20% and as high as 80% unemployment, jobs are hard to find. That is why we need our fisheries to sustain us in rural Alaska.

Proposal 25-30: Oppose, this would increase the interception rates of salmon.

Proposal 220: Oppose, Moving tenders, net barges, etc, would create big problems in the Egegik fishing district.

Proposal 221: Oppose, again tenders usually move when a drifter is drifting upon them if you call.

Proposal 71-74,76,80,91: support, these are house keeping proposals by the department and would help everyone.

Proposal 31,32,33,35,37,38,39,40: Oppose and support the Board looking at proposal 41.

Proposal 34: Oppose, This fleet is already a real mobile fleet. The 48 hour transfer time period is to protect fisherman in other districts from the influx of new fisherman from another district. It has worked very well for the fishermen of Bristol bay.

Proposal 36 : Oppose

Proposal 42,43; Oppose, When we first adopted this proposal it was written and put in place by the setnetters. At the time setnetters with skiffs were moving all around the bay and corking

other setnetters that is why this regulation is in place. Today we have an allocation and changing the regulation may tilt the allocation between the setnetters.

Proposal 45,46,47,48,50: Oppose, I do not support permit stacking although I have two permits. Just look at the watershed residents ownership of permits both in the setnet and drift fishery they are down to almost nothing. If you pass these proposals then the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Outside interests will buy additional permits, most likely from watershed residents making our permit ownership a bigger problem for the communities of Bristol bay. I beg you please do not pass these stacking proposals. I included a permit ownership of both set and drift permits.

Proposal 49: Opposed, see above proposal

Proposal 51,52,53: Oppose, same reasons as the two above proposals. Dual permit already have an advantage over single permitted boats. They have addition gear and when we are limit by the fish companies they have higher limits. Keep it as is, otherwise you will just chase out water shed residents who cannot afford two permits.

Proposal 54: Oppose, I support the departments comments.

Proposal 55: Oppose, this proposal has appeared before the B of F a few times and has never gotten any support.

Proposal 57: Oppose, the management plan for the Kvichak River has taken a lot of time an hard work by the department and fishermen, why change something when it is not broken.

Proposal 58: Oppose, this would greatly increase the interception of Kvichak bound fish.

Proposal 61-74: Oppose, the drifters and setnetters support this proposal on the distance a set net could operate please no changes.

Proposal 62: Oppose, both the drift fleet and set net fleet agreed to this proposal when we redid the management plan for the Nushagak. Please do not change a portion of it because it will create a whole host of proposal from the user groups all asking for more distance.

Proposal 63: Oppose, this has been set in place for over 20 years, changing on area will effect another area. Drift fishermen use this area quite a bit.

Proposal 64: Support, the department now gives us ebb fishing most of the time. Fish are on top of the water when the tide is coming in and go down on the ebb. This proposal will allow a little more opportunity for drift fishermen to catch fish.

Proposal 65: Oppose, small mesh size only over time produces smaller fish. One only has to look at what happened to the big fish of the Kvichak River, they allowed small mesh gear and the size of their salmon compared to other fishing districts is smaller now.

Proposal 67: support,

Proposal 68: Oppose, We need the Wood River management plan. If we cannot fish the Wood River then we will be sitting in the Dillingham Boat harbor watching over escapement fish into the Wood River, Lost opportunity for all. We need to protect the Nushagak River sockeye and this proposal does just that.

Proposal 69: Support

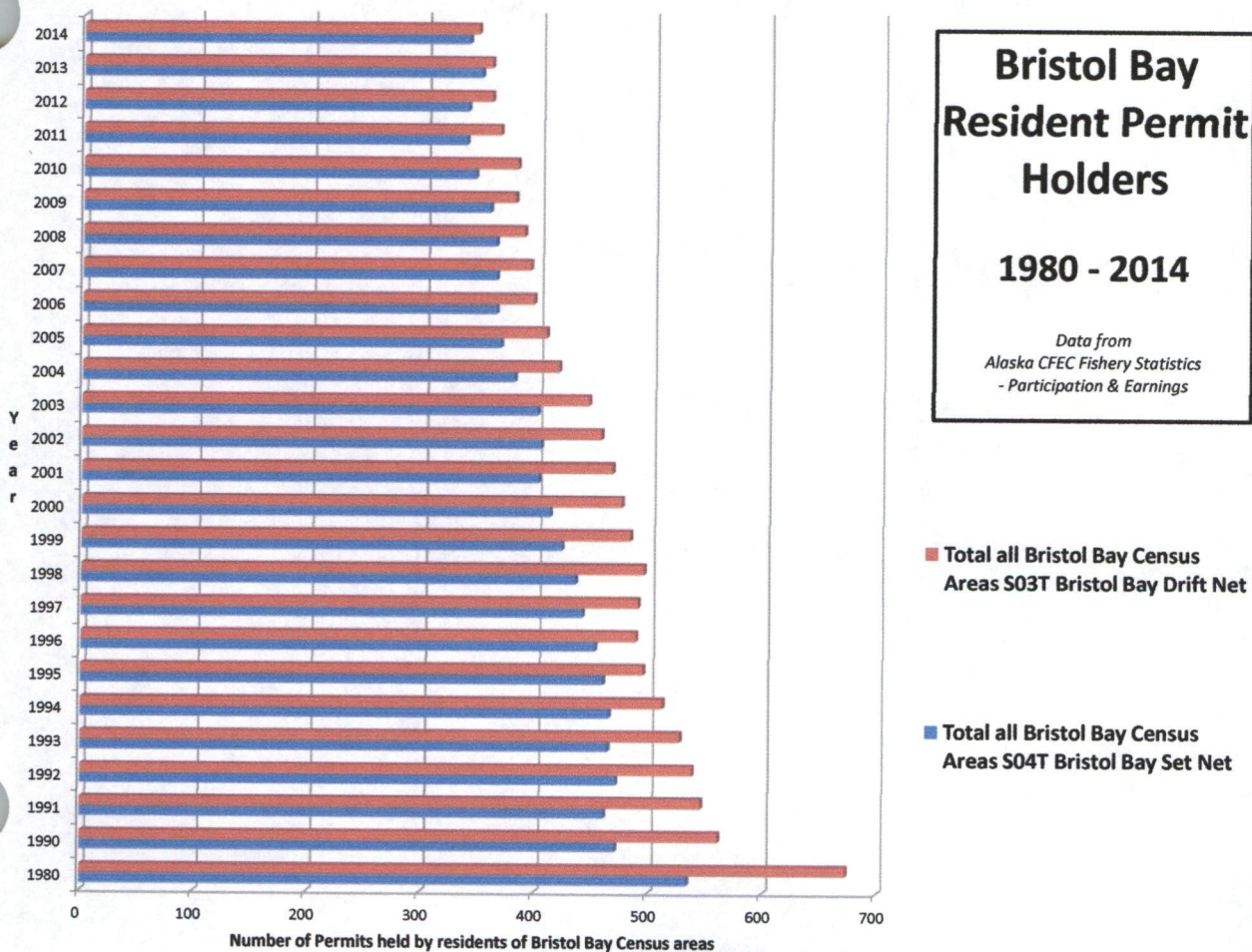
Proposal 70: Oppose, keep the ratio's as is.

Thank You for allowing myself to comment on these very important proposals, If we do not turn around our loss of permits in Bristol Bay then I think we have to do an evaluation of the permit system in Bristol Bay. As it stands today, the system is not working for Bristol Bay, it is broke. The herring fishery has a hand full of water shed residents in it and I would bet that 95% of that value is leaving the State of Alaska. One organization in Bristol Bay is putting its money where it's mouth is and that the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation. They are helping the communities and fishermen by helping to buy permit, fix boat as well as a whole host of other things. I am sure you will get a report during this meeting. Thank You.

Number of Permits Held by Residents of Bristol Bay Census Areas

Year	Dillingham Census Area		Lake and Peninsula Census Area		Bristol Bay Borough Census Area		Total all Bristol Bay Census Areas		Total all permits held by Residents
	S04T	S03T	S04T	S03T	S04T	S03T	S04T	S03T	
	BB Set Net	BB Drift Net	BB Set Net	BB Drift Net	BB Set Net	BB Drift Net	Bristol Bay Set Net	Bristol Bay Drift Net	
1980	287	457	98	133	149	83	534	673	1207
1990	252	381	92	108	127	72	471	561	1032
1991	245	374	87	100	129	72	461	546	1007
1992	252	367	86	99	133	72	471	538	1009
1993	244	362	89	98	131	67	464	527	991
1994	246	350	89	95	130	67	465	512	977
1995	242	341	84	89	134	65	460	495	955
1996	240	334	74	88	138	66	452	488	940
1997	239	332	73	89	129	69	441	490	931
1998	232	331	74	90	129	74	435	495	930
1999	233	325	65	86	125	72	423	483	906
2000	231	326	64	86	117	63	412	475	887
2001	228	318	57	84	117	65	402	467	869
2002	226	314	55	75	123	68	404	457	861
2003	218	309	54	69	129	68	401	446	847
2004	211	286	48	66	121	67	380	419	799
2005	204	284	48	63	116	61	368	408	776
2006	201	275	48	61	115	61	364	397	761
2007	204	272	45	60	115	62	364	394	758
2008	202	270	44	61	117	57	363	388	751
2009	205	263	44	61	109	56	358	380	738
2010	199	262	45	57	101	63	345	382	727
2011	203	256	40	53	94	58	337	367	704
2012	200	248	40	53	98	58	338	359	697
2013	204	250	44	51	102	58	350	359	709
2014	200	245	41	41	98	61	339	347	686

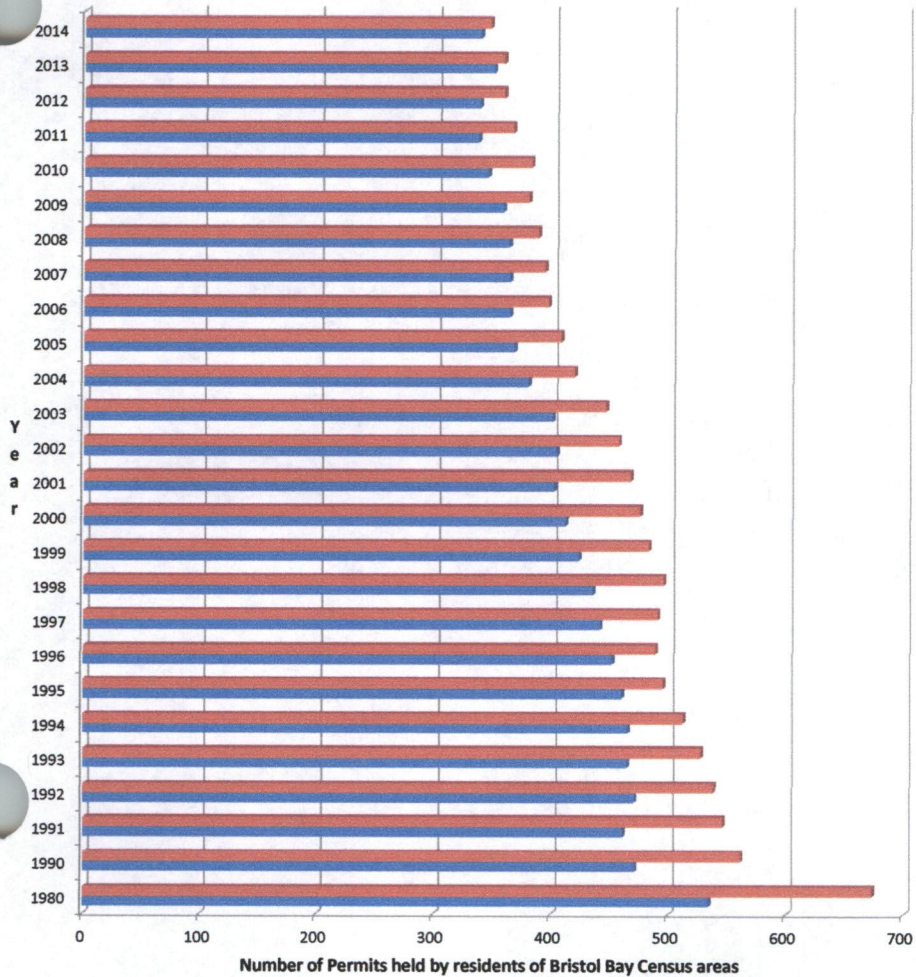
Information from Alaska CFEC Fishery Statistics - Participation & Earnings



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**Bristol Bay
Resident Permit
Holders**

1980 - 2014

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Alaska CFEC Fishery Statistics
- Participation & Earnings*

■ Total all Bristol Bay Census Areas S03T Bristol Bay Drift Net

■ Total all Bristol Bay Census Areas S04T Bristol Bay Set Net