

To the chair and members of the house fisheries committee,

My name is Tollef Monson and I'm a setnetter on Kodiak Island, for 24 yrs and coming up on 20 as an site owner and permit holder. I support HB 117 even though I'm a single permit holder and have no plans to expand into multiple permits.

Not being able to co-mingle fish in one small boat for one site with multiple permits is unreasonable for a number of reasons. Given the size of our fishery which are typically small family operations who have invested their entire lives to keeping their operation going, adding more holding boats is ridiculous. What I see now is many of these multiple permits families won't be able to make it if they have to break up the deliveries into each permit holders individual fish. Loss in efficiency with time and safety having frail but competent elders out in rough water unnecessarily. This is not a cheaters fishery, there is no over the line fishing or extra gear in the water just a few hardy and hard working folks trying to keep the status quo of how the fishery has always been prosecuted since statehood until some over eager State Trooper decided to write a ticket out of ignorance.

Let's get this bill passed so the added emotional and financial turmoil in the fishery and the state can be dialed down a couple notches. The greying of the fleet is well documented and allow their families to keep providing for themselves as is, without any changes.

Thank you for all the hard work everyone does which is probably thankless and mostly unobserved sacrifice, like cleaning out the jellyfish from a net at 4am!

Tollef Monson