

25 Fathoms Drift Gear, 12 Fathoms Set Net for Bristol Bay

The maximum length of gill net which may be used by Bristol Bay commercial fishermen this season has been set at 25 fathoms per drift gear license holder and 12½ fathoms per set net license holder, the Department of Fish and Game announced.

Darwin Biwer, Area Biologist

for Bristol Bay, said the gill net length restrictions are only for the emergency order period, which is June 16 - July 17 for the Nushagak District, and June 23 - July 17 for other districts in Bristol Bay.

Before and after the emergency period, the maximum allowable length of net will be

150 fathoms for drift nets and 50 fathoms for set nets.

Last year, the Board of Fish and Game adopted a sliding gear scale for the Bristol Bay commercial salmon fishery which determines the length of net each gear license holder may fish.

The length is based on the

forecasted red salmon harvest and the total fathoms of gill net registered by all commercial fishermen.

Biwer said that although commercial fishing license applications received prior to the April 15 deadline, have yet to be completed, the number of fathoms licensed to date has

already exceeded the level which would reduce the length of net to the minimum.

As of April 24, 205,650 fathoms of gill net gear had been registered for Bristol Bay. In 1972, 307,300 fathoms of net were registered.

During the emergency order period, gear license holders may combine their units of allowable gear to a maximum of 150 fathoms for drift nets and 50 fathoms for set nets.

However, each gear license holder who combines his gear with another must be physically present while the gear is being fished and must assist in the operation of that gear.

VA Outreach Program Not Relaxed

Veterans are returning to civil life at a much slower pace than during the 1970-71 peak period for military discharge, but the Veterans Administration has not relaxed its "Outreach" program for veterans.

A checklist of important deadline dates is one of the timely reminders issued periodically as part of the "outreach" effort.

Other steps include counseling at all military separation points, in military hospitals and even on aircraft carriers and mobile van visits to home towns and direct mail follow-up to veterans after discharge.

The veterans' timetable to take full advantage of various benefits and programs is:

Within 90 days, apply to former employer for reemployment.

As soon as possible, register with local state employment service office. (Veterans have up to a year to apply for unemployment compensation, but applications filed after a long period of unemployment could result in a lower rate of unemployment compensation.)

Within 120 days (for one year if totally disabled at time of separation), convert Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (without examination) to private, commercial policy.

Within one year from date notice of VA rating on disability, apply to any VA office for G.I. life insurance based on service connected disability.

Within one year, apply to any VA office for dental care.

As soon as possible, apply to any VA office for G.I. education or training. Education or training under the G.I. Bill must be completed within eight years of separation from military service.

In 30 days, register with Selective Service or any local board, if not already registered.

In ten days, report address to Selective Service through local board (in person or by mail).

There are not time limits for veterans to:

Apply to any VA office for a G.I. loan guaranty to buy a farm, or buy, build or improve a home.

File claims with any VA office for compensation for service connected disabilities or disease.

Apply for hospital care.

Seek assistance from state employment offices for jobs or Labor Department job training programs.

VA said its 72 assistance centers around the country are ready to help veterans get a quick start in civilian life.

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