

**PROPOSAL 111 - 5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan.** Allow department to set trip limits on geoduck harvest based on market conditions, as follows:

5AAC 38.142 Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan

(k) The commissioner may establish the maximum amount of geoducks that may be harvested during a fishing period. If the commissioner determines that a rate of delivering geoducks will contribute to conservation, law enforcement, waste reduction, or assist the development of the fishery, **or if market conditions warrant a reduction in the fishery,** the commissioner may close, by emergency order, a fishing period in a designated area, and reopen a fishing period in the same area for which the commissioner designates a rate of delivery.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Southeast Regional Dive Fisheries Association (SARDFA) would like to be able to use trip limits at times in the geoduck clam fishery to limit the harvest to meet marketing demands. While 5AAC 38.142 (k) allows for trip limits to "assist the development of the fishery" it is unclear and perhaps allocative for ADF&G to impose trip limits if SARDFA's Geoduck Committee recommends it. The department has allowed trip limits in the past due to marketing problems, but only when 100% of the Geoduck Committee recommends it.

SARDFA would like to allow the department, working cooperatively with SARDFA's Geoduck Committee, to use trip limits when a majority of the Geoduck Committee votes to impose a trip limit.

**PROPOSED BY:** Phil Doherty (EF-C14-056)  
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**PROPOSAL 112 - 5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan.** Establish a weekly trip limit of 1,000 pounds of geoduck clams for each CFEC permit holder with no more than two permit holders on a vessel, as follows:

Establish a weekly trip limit of 1,000 pounds of geoduck clams per valid Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) geoduck permit holder.

During an open fishing period, no more than two individuals, each of whom possess a CFEC geoduck clam permit, may operate diving gear and land commercially harvested geoduck clams from a vessel that is licensed or registered to commercially fish for geoduck clams.

No vessel that is licensed or registered to commercially fish for geoduck clams may land or possess more than 2,000 pounds of geoduck clams per week.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The issue for the Board of Fisheries to address is the "derby-style" geoduck clam fishery in Southeast Alaska. This manner of fishing greatly contributes to a depressed fisherman price and substantially increases diving risks by concentrating vessels and divers in small areas for limited time openings. This has

resulted in greater than normal fishing risks, i.e. diver entanglements, vessel confrontations and low fishing prices.

**PROPOSED BY:** Cornelis Bakker

(EF-C14-167)

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