

PROPOSAL 130 - 5 AAC 28.1XX. Spiny dogfish pot fishery in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 28.174. Spiny dogfish (Squalus acanthias) possession and landing requirements for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area. Create a commercial fishery for spiny dogfish in Southeast Alaska using pot gear, as follows:

Create a new spiny dogfish pot fishery in Southeast Alaska with regulations as described to be determined by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

1. Spiny dogfish are currently an underutilized fishery.
2. In processing spiny dogfish, nearly all of the carcass is utilized, (including organs) except the head. When markets are developed, this fishery could provide new revenue streams and opportunities for fishers, processors, and communities.
3. Spiny dogfish tend to travel in large dense packs by size and sex. Longline spiny dogfish fisheries in British Columbia's Strait of Georgia have resulted in concerns over the inability to fish selectively, resulting in unwanted harvest of fecund females. A pot fishery could resolve those issues by the fact that the fish are harvested live and could be released unharmed, coupled with regulations on:
 - a. Season duration
 - b. Pot limits
 - c. Escapement rings
 - e. Legal size retention (slot limits)

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