

PROPOSAL 17 – 5 AAC 28.648. Dutch Harbor Subdistrict Pacific Cod Management Plan.
Increase the vessel size limit from 58 to 125 feet overall length for the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict state-waters Pacific cod fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 28.648 (e)(2)(C) a vessel registered to take Pacific cod may not be longer than **125** [58] feet in overall length;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Change the vessel size limit for the state water Dutch Harbor Subdistrict to 125'. 1) Arguments for limiting size of vessels in this fishery are no longer valid. 2) Vessels larger than 58' that have historically participated in the Bering Sea Pacific cod fishery have been economically disenfranchises from the fishery they helped build. 3) Vessels up to 125' would be excellent stewards of the resource. Coupled with the observer program, this vessel length modification would enable the state to expand the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict area for Pacific cod using pot gear and create a significant positive economic benefit to the state, fishermen, and Bering Sea communities.

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