

**PROPOSAL 5 – 5 AAC 28.365. Cook Inlet Rockfish Management Plan.** Clarify procedures for obtaining and submitting log sheets for the Cook Inlet commercial rockfish fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 28.365(e) is amended to read:

(e) An operator of a vessel participating in the Cook Inlet directed rockfish fishery shall obtain **rockfish log sheets** [AND COMPLETE A ROCKFISH LOGBOOK] provided by the department **at the time of registration**. The vessel operator must have the **log sheets** [LOGBOOK] on board the vessel at all times the vessel is participating in the Cook Inlet directed rockfish fishery. **The vessel operator must submit to the department's office in Homer completed corresponding log sheets within 10 days after each landing of directed rockfish.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Although the current regulation requires completion of logbooks, it does not specify where and when to submit completed logbooks. A similar regulation exists for the Prince William Sound sablefish fishery as defined under 5 AAC 28.272(f) which requires that log sheets must be received within 10 days after each landing to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) office in Cordova. There is a similar proposal to require log sheets for the Cook Inlet sablefish fishery to be submitted to the department's Homer office within 10 days after each landing. The Cook Inlet directed rockfish fishery is managed out of the Homer office and timely receipt of log sheets is necessary for corroboration of harvest and effort data. Typically, fishermen delivering to a processor will submit log sheet(s) to industry staff when completing the fish ticket and the buyer will submit the log sheet with the fish ticket to the department. This practice works well since it is specified in regulation that fish tickets are due to the department within 7 days of landing (5 AAC 39.130(c)); however, it is still the fisherman's responsibility to submit the log sheet. Many participants in the directed rockfish fishery are catcher-sellers and complete their own fish tickets and therefore do not submit their log sheets to a separate buyer, further necessitating that a clear deadline is specified in regulation for when log sheets are due to the department. This proposal seeks to implement a 10-day deadline following a directed rockfish landing, when log sheets are due to the department's office in Homer, for vessels participating in the Cook Inlet directed rockfish fishery.

Currently, at times, staff has needed to track down fishermen well after their landings have occurred in an attempt to collect missing logs, and this has caused concern that logs might be filled out inaccurately. Other proposed changes in the regulatory language are to clarify that log sheets are provided by the department, rather than "logbooks", and that these blank log sheet pages may be faxed, e-mailed, or copied to replenish a fisherman's supply. Additional proposed language clarifies that log sheets correspond to a single landing, and therefore the time frame for submission follows that landing.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game (HQ-F16-128)

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