

PROPOSAL 4

5 AAC 28.265. Prince William Sound Rockfish Management Plan.

Establish a pelagic rockfish jig fishery with a separate guideline harvest level in the Outside District of the Prince William Sound Area, as follows:

Establish a targeted pelagic rockfish jig fishery with its own guideline harvest level (GHL) in the Eastern and Western outside districts of Area E. The fishery could be established in a fashion similar to the existing pelagic jig fisheries in neighboring Area H or Kodiak.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Request that the total rockfish GHL of Area E be adjusted to allow for a directed fishery for pelagic rockfish in the area. The current total GHL of rockfish in Area E cannot exceed 150,000 pounds of rockfish in all fisheries. There are currently no directed rockfish fisheries in Prince William Sound; all rockfish are caught as bycatch in other fisheries. The current rockfish bycatch consists of very little pelagic rockfish and it would be beneficial to establish a separate GHL for only pelagic rockfish.

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United Board of Directors (HQ-F17-039)
