

PROPOSAL 6

5 AAC 28.267. Prince William Sound Pacific Cod Management Plan.

Allow vessels fishing for halibut in the Prince William Sound Area to retain all Pacific cod bycatch when directed Pacific cod fisheries are closed due to reaching the federal halibut bycatch allowance, as follows:

When the P cod fishery is closed due to excessive halibut bycatch; vessels targeting halibut (and in possession of a miscellaneous finfish permit) shall be allowed to retain all P cod.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Vessels engaged in halibut fishing are forced to discard P cod, even though P cod TACs have not been reached. P cod fishing has been closed due to excessive halibut bycatch so vessels fishing P cod are forced to shuck halibut and vessels fishing halibut are forced to shuck P cod. This is an extremely wasteful practice forced upon fishermen by the regulatory bodies.

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