

PROPOSAL 93

5 AAC 38.1XX. Southeastern Alaska Area Squid Fishery.

Establish a commercial fishery for squid, using purse seine gear, in the Southeastern Alaska Area, as follows:

I recommend the State of Alaska start a directed purse seine fishery for Market Squid (*Doryteuthis opalescens*) in Registration Area A Southeastern Alaska.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There is a growing population of Market Squid (*Doryteuthis opalescens*) in Registration Area A coastal waters. Market Squid is harvested in directed purse seine fisheries along the west coast of the United States, primarily in Oregon and California. Wholesale values for Market Squid can reach as high as \$3,500mt on lean harvest years and in over supply years range between \$1,400mt- \$1,600mt. This economic opportunity is going untouched in Coastal Alaska.

The northern range of Market Squid is likely expanding due to Pacific Ocean warming. It is known the warming ocean and acidification will negatively affect some economically important species (e.g. crab, shellfish), and therefore the State should be proactive and encourage the development of new fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Justin Peeler

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