PROPOSAL 187

5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.

Allow the department to modify weekly fishing periods by emergency order during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's Day, as follows:

5 AAC 38.140. Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan. (b) (3) during the weeks of Christmas and New Years the commissioner may, by emergency order, open the fishery on days to maximize the harvest.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association would like to give ADF&G the flexibility to manage the southeast Alaska sea cucumber fishery during the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Right now, by regulation, the sea cucumber fishery opens on Monday/Tuesday. In years when the holidays fall on those days or the day after divers and processors may not operate. The department currently does not have the regulatory flexibility to change those days to accommodate the fisheries. This proposal would give the department that needed flexibility.