

PROPOSAL 42

5 AAC 24.370. Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan.

Amend the set gillnet group exvessel value percentage trigger point in the *Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan*, as follows:

5 AAC 24.730 Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Plan (f):

If the set gillnet gear group catches **4.25 percent** [FIVE PERCENT] or more of the previous five-year average ex-vessel value of the total common property fishery for enhanced salmon as calculated by the department under (c) of this section, the year following this calculation beginning July 10, the commissioner shall by emergency order, open set gillnet fishing periods totaling no more than 36 hours per week.

If the set gillnet trigger was moved to 4.25 percent it would create equality between the user groups by making the triggers an equal percentage.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This plan should be fair and just too all user groups in Area E fisheries, but as it is currently the triggers for the gear groups are unequally represented.

As of the current regulation, the set gillnet gear group allocation is 4% of total Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation (PWSAC) component of the common property fishery. This is calculated by the department on a five-year average and the balancing trigger is set at 5% or more for the department to execute management tools to balance allocation. Whereas the drift and seine fleet triggers are triggered at less than 45 percent of the previous five-year ex-vessel average.

As the regulation is currently, set gillnet gear group is allowed to go over their allocation percentage by 25% of their total allocation before the trigger takes place; whereas seine and drift gillnet are allowed to go over only 6% before their trigger takes place.

The purpose of this proposal is to maintain parity between the user groups of the Area E fishery.

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