

PROPOSAL 153

5 AAC 39.145. Escape mechanism for shellfish and bottomfish pots.

Define escape mechanisms for collapsible ‘slinky’ groundfish pots, as follows:

AWT and ADF&G have been working on wording that will be easily understood and enforceable. A drafted RC will be submitted at the BOF meeting detailing how an escape mechanism is to be rigged on these newer collapsible style pots.

...

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? With the recent addition of collapsible groundfish pots “slinky pots” in the sablefish fisheries the current regulations for escape mechanism create confusion for users and enforcement on how to properly rig this style of pots. With there being no true bottom, it is unknown where the opening must be placed as the language is currently written, and if the pot lays to rest with the opening on the ocean floor, it will not properly act as an escape mechanism.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Wildlife Troopers

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