

**PROPOSAL 1**

**5 AAC 01.620. Lawful gear and gear specifications; 5 AAC 55.022. General provisions for season, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area; and 77.XXX. New Section.**

Establish pot gear as legal gear for sablefish in PWS subsistence, sport, and personal use fisheries, as follows:

This proposal's intent is to create a new addition in regulation for the PWS area that provides a legal means of fishing for Sablefish with pots. As far as regulation details, I suppose more information that I currently don't have would need to be researched and considered, such as the possibility of a size limit, catch limit, also the mortality rate of fish released from a pot. Also included, no doubt, would be the number of pots allowed and legal pot design. I would call on the assistance of the proper adfg staff for research data and regulation authorship.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Diverse methods (pot fishing in particular) for sport, personal use, and/or subsistence harvest of Sablefish in Prince William Sound. Currently, the only method available ( sport fishing with line and pole) is arguably excessive in gear expense, relatively unpractical for more than one participant per boat due to extreme target depths when compared to other traditional sport fishing activities.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.** This proposal has been drafted by myself only, but is based on discussions with many differed anglers that are interested in making this a possibility.

**PROPOSED BY:** Michael Phillips (EF-F24-024)

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