

PROPOSAL 20

5 AAC 28.210. Fishing seasons for Prince William Sound Area. 5 AAC 28.206. Prince William Sound Area registration.

Modify the commercial fishing season for sablefish in Prince William Sound, as follows:

Amend 5 AAC 28.210 to read:

(b) Sablefish may be taken in the Inside District **beginning concurrent with the opening of the federal sablefish IFQ fishery** [FROM APRIL 15] through August 31 There is no open season for commercial sablefish fishing in the Outside District.

Amend 5 AAC 28.206 to read:

(c) In the Inside District, a Prince William Sound CFEC sablefish permit holder, or the permit holder's agent, must register for the commercial sablefish fishery before 5:00 p.m. [APRIL 1] **February 15th**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current season timing excludes many participants in PWS Salmon fisheries from participating in the PWS sablefish fishery. These expanded dates will better align with the federal fishery in the Gulf and will allow fishermen to get the most value from their catch. The GHL for Sablefish has not been fully harvested in recent years in part due to the overlap of the season with other fisheries.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU)

(EF-F24-131)
