

PROPOSAL 217

5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.

Allow weekly fishing periods to begin on Sundays, as follows:

Allowing weekly openers to include Sundays from 8 to 3 would allow flexibility in the event of seasonal storms, limitations of smaller vessels in relation to weather events, and the aging of the dive personnel, many over 60 years of age. The quota per opener would remain at 2000 pounds.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? A change to the days each weekly opener would include. This would consolidate the season to the benefit of the fleet, canneries, and enforcement personnel. An informal survey of divers, particularly in the high sea otter populated areas, indicate an inability to reach the weekly quota in the time allotted. This would drive a completion of the fishery prior to the short winter days and closure of the canneries/buyers.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This proposal was discussed with multiple dive fishery permit holders.

PROPOSED BY: Brian Cloose

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