

PROPOSAL 4

5 AAC 28.265. Prince William Sound Rockfish Management Plan

Restrict gear in Prince William Sound relative to the rockfish guideline harvest level, as follows:

- (a) A vessel may not land or have on board more than a combined total of 3,000 pounds (round weight) of all rockfish species within five consecutive days.
 - (b) In the Prince William Sound Area, when fishing in a directed fishery, other than for rockfish, a CFEC permit holder must retain all rockfish, except that
 - (1) unless otherwise specified in this section, all rockfish in excess of 10 percent, round weight, of all directed species on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state;
 - (2) during the sablefish fishery, all rockfish in excess of 20 percent, round weight, of all sablefish on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state;
 - (3) during a season for Pacific cod, all rockfish in excess of five percent, round weight, of all Pacific cod on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state;
 - (4) during the directed walleye pollock pelagic trawl fishery, all rockfish in excess of one-half percent, round weight, of all walleye pollock on board the vessel must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket; any proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish shall be surrendered to the state.
 - (c) The guideline harvest level is 150,000 pounds (round weight) for all rockfish species combined.
- (5) When the guideline harvest level has reached 80 percent of the 150,000-pound GHL auto-bait gear is prohibited within Prince William Sound**

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In recent years the rockfish GHL has been approached or exceeded in the commercial fishery. Limiting the use of auto-bait gear in Prince William Sound when approaching the GHL would alleviate this and prove effective due to the sheer number of hooks an auto bait vessel can fish versus hand baited vessels.

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

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