

PROPOSAL 122

5 AAC 28.160. Harvest guidelines and ranges for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Base guideline harvest limits for the commercial sablefish fishery on federal survey data, as follows:

Eliminate the state sablefish survey for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, and adopt the federal Southeast Outside survey for determining the annual quota allotments.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Use the federal sablefish survey Southeast Outside for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, rather than the State of Alaska conduct its own separate survey for the Easter Gulf region.

By using the federal survey, rather than conducting its own, the State of Alaska will save on the expense of conducting its own survey. Also, since the federal survey is conducted earlier in the year, the stocks will be assessed earlier. This will allow the permit holders to start their season earlier, reducing gear conflicts and allowing adjustments to reduce losses to marine mammals, sand fleas, and hagfish.

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