

PROPOSAL 42

5 AAC 28.367. Cook Inlet Pacific Cod Management Plan.

Clarify possession and landing requirements for the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Cook Inlet Area, as follows:

5 AAC 28.367 is amended to read:

...

(x) In accordance with 5 AAC 28.020 (b)(1), a vessel participating in a parallel Pacific cod season in the Cook Inlet Area, must remain within the Cook Inlet Area during that trip.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? This proposal seeks to clarify possession and landing requirements as a condition of registration for the Cook Inlet parallel Pacific cod fishery. Vessels participating in the Pacific cod fishery within the Cook Inlet Area may fish in both state and federal waters on the same trip if they meet federal requirements. However, vessels may only be registered for one registration area at a time as provided in 5 AAC 28.020 (b)(1) and are required to register for the Cook Inlet Area parallel Pacific cod fishery. Therefore, if a vessel participates inside state waters during the parallel Pacific cod fishery, the vessel must remain in the registration area for that trip. If the vessel were to fish in the adjacent Prince William Sound Area during that trip, for example, the vessel registration for the Cook Inlet Area parallel Pacific cod fishery would be invalidated and the vessel would no longer be in compliance of registration requirements. Clarifying allowable fishing activity in regulation under 5 AAC 28.367 would reduce confusion for the public regarding Cook Inlet Area requirements.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

(HQ-F19-160)
