

**Submitted by Board Member John Jensen , prepared by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game<sup>i</sup>.**

March 11, 2023

Substitute language for proposal 161:

Chapter 28 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**5 AAC 28.015. Guiding policy on groundfish fisheries resource management.**

The Board of Fisheries and the department when taking actions regarding the management of groundfish fisheries should be based on the following principles and criteria:

(1) conservation of the groundfish resource to ensure sustained yield, which requires that the total allowable catch in any fishery be based upon the biological abundance of the stock;

(2) minimization of bycatch of other associated fish and shellfish and prevention of the localized depletion of stocks;

(3) protection of the habitat and other associated fish and shellfish species from nonsustainable fishing practices with consideration of ecosystem interactions;

(4) maintenance of slower harvest rates by methods and means and time and area restrictions to ensure adequate reporting and analysis necessary for management of the fishery and ensuring adherence to annual and seasonal total allowable catch limits;

(5) extension of the length of fishing seasons by methods and means and time and area restrictions to provide for the maximum benefit to the state ~~and to regions~~ and local areas of the state;

(6) harvest of the resource in a manner that emphasizes the quality and value of the fishery product;

(7) provide opportunities for subsistence, sport, commercial and personal use fisheries;

(8) cooperation with federal agencies associated with groundfish fisheries;

(9) management of the groundfish fisheries are based on information that, in the commissioner's discretion, will tend to promote the purposes of Alaska statutes pertaining to fisheries management.

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<sup>i</sup> Preparation of draft substitute language at the request of a Board member does not imply ADF&G support. The Department will state its position on the language during deliberation.