

**PROPOSAL 245 - 5 AAC 55.055. Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan.** Change harvest allocation guidelines under the Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan, as follows:

Revisit the *Spot Shrimp Management Plan*. The plan called for a sport fish allocation of 60% to commercial harvest of 40% after subsistence was taken from the surplus harvest amount.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Return the allocation to the sport fishery for spot shrimp in Prince William Sound. Three years ago the Board of Fisheries was misled about the intentions of the proposal which took the allocation away from sport fish. There was no public input to this. There was not a proposal that spoke to taking away an allocation and making a guideline harvest level. The fishery should be on the conservative side of management based on the fact of the failure of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to manage sustainable shellfish fisheries in Southcentral Alaska.

**PROPOSED BY:** Mike Crawford (HQ-F14-048)  
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**PROPOSAL 246 - 5 AAC 55.055. Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan.** Change harvest strategies under the Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan, as follows:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game shall determine harvest strategies so that sport fishers shall harvest 60% of spot shrimp harvest.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Restore sport allocation and tools to achieve allocation in spot shrimp fishery in Prince William Sound. The Board of Fisheries (board) removed the allocation in the last meeting changing it to a guideline harvest level (GHL) using a proposal that was directed toward closing the commercial fishery. This violated board protocol and should be fixed.

**PROPOSED BY:** Joe Hanes (HQ-F14-044)  
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**PROPOSAL 247 - 5 AAC 55.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area; 5 AAC 55.055. Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan; and 5 AAC 77.553. Personal use shrimp fishery.** Modify pot limits per person and household, and increase the pot limit from five to 10 shrimp pots per vessel, as follows:

People would save money in gas, and the activity would be considerably safer if we were allowed to take another person with pots to check both households pots on one boat during the same trip out.

Also, a change from 'person' to 'household' would prevent people from abusing the five pot limit by getting five pots for additional family members.

Therefore, I would recommend changing the regulation from 'five pots per person, to five pots per household'. I would also recommend the change from max. five pots per vessel, to max. ten pots per vessel'.

New language:

"Five shrimp pots per household, with a maximum of ten pots per vessel may be used."

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Currently in Prince William Sound you are allowed 'five shrimp pots per person, maximum five per vessel'. Gas prices have increased over the years and it costs a lot more money to take your boat out to check your family's shrimp pots. Also, during times of strong currents and higher winds it is dangerous to check your pots by yourself.

Currently in the southeast you are allowed 'Five shrimp pots per person with a maximum of ten pots per vessel'.

**PROPOSED BY:** Daniel Mott (EF-C14-154)

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**PROPOSAL 248 - 5 AAC 55.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area; 5 AAC 55.055. Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan; and 5 AAC 77.553. Personal use shrimp fishery.** Modify reporting requirements for sport and personal use shrimp fishing in the Prince William Sound Area, including monthly reporting, as follows:

Sport and personal use shellfish fisheries in Prince William Sound shall be required to record and log catch results immediately upon harvest, while on the fishing grounds, on a department issued permit and harvest record. In addition, and until the harvest record (permit) is returned to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) at the end of the season by existing regulation, monthly reporting of effort and catch results by statistical area will be submitted to ADF&G for resource management by the permit holder; due by the 1st of each month while a permit is in possession. Timely reporting would allow sound management decisions to be made in season, if necessary, for the health of this fisheries resource.

Proposed administrative code would take the form of the following:

5 AAC 55.055 Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan

(a)

...

(2) a harvest recording form is required as specified in 5 AAC 75.016;

**(A) the department shall collect from this record, at a minimum, the harvest date, catch weight, number of pots pulled, and statistical area.**

5 AAC 55.022 General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Prince William Sound Area

(b)

...

(5)

(D) only under a permit issued by the department; a harvest recording form under 5 AAC 75.016 is required;

**(i) shall be in possession of the permit holder while engaged in harvesting shrimp;**

**(ii) shall be used to immediately upon harvest, record all required catch information;**

**(iii) and while a sport or personal use permit is issued, and has not yet been returned to the department, permit harvest information shall be reported to the department monthly, by online or other methods as determined by the department, no later than the 1st of each month during open fishing periods.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** There is currently no reporting required of sport and personal use shrimp fishers in Prince William Sound. Because of this, it is impossible to ensure harvest remains within stated management Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) allocations.

Sport and personal use fishers comprise 60% of the shrimp total allowable harvest for this region; however, reporting how much is harvested is not required. There has been continued growing interest and participation in this fishery by recreational participants, which places increasing pressure on the fishery. The lack of timely and actual catch data can only lead to the speculation of harvest levels or reliance on the inaccurate and incomplete statewide sport fish creel survey, which is not available until long after the season closes by regulation. Harvest reporting by all user groups is essential for the sustainable management of this fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Brett Wilbanks (EF-C14-130)

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**PROPOSAL 249 - 5 AAC 02.210. Subsistence shrimp fishery.** Create a subsistence permit for shrimp in the Prince William Sound management area.

Make available a subsistence permit to Alaska residents. Review the *Spot Shrimp Management Plan*. All Alaskans should be able to harvest under the state subsistence regulations.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The *Spot Shrimp Management Plan* talks about a subsistence allocation. This is to be taken out before other allocation issues are decided. There is no subsistence permit offered. How does the Alaska Department of Fish and Game figure out the subsistence part of the allocation? Just a guess?

**PROPOSED BY:** Wynn Gilbertson (HQ-F14-046)

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