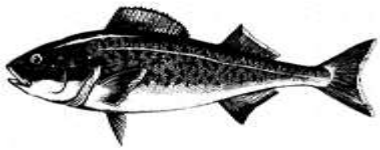
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE

Cora Campbell, Commissioner

Jeff Regnart, Director



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2014 ALEUTIAN ISLANDS STATE-WATERS SABLEFISH GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL AND SEASON OPENING ANNOUNCED

The state-waters sablefish season in the Aleutian Islands will open to commercial fishing at 12:00 noon on March 8, 2014 in conjunction with the federal IFQ season. The state-waters sablefish season will close when the guideline harvest level (GHL) is reached or on November 7, 2014 if the GHL is not reached. The 2014 Aleutian Islands state-waters sablefish fishery GHL is 347,000 pounds.

The Aleutian Islands state-waters sablefish registration area includes all state waters west of Scotch Cap Light (164° 44.72' W longitude) and south of Cape Sarichef (54° 36' N latitude). All vessels harvesting sablefish in state waters, including individual fishing quota (IFQ) holders and those participating in the Community Development Quota (CDQ) fishery, must be registered for the state-waters sablefish fishery. Sablefish processors must notify the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in Dutch Harbor prior to the start of operations.

Pot, longline, jig and hand troll are the only legal gear types. Vessel operators may longline pots in the Aleutian Islands District of the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands Area, but not in the Western District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

Fishermen are required to submit state-waters sablefish logbooks to the Dutch Harbor ADF&G office within 7 days of landing. Fishermen delivering east of Scotch Cap Light must check out of the state-waters sablefish registration area by contacting ADF&G in Dutch Harbor before departing the registration area and may be required to submit to an inspection at a point designated by the local representative of the department.

For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239.

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