

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



*Sam Cotten, Acting Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Contact:  
Maria Wessel, Groundfish Management Biologist

Cordova Area Office  
P.O. Box 669  
Cordova, Alaska 99574

Phone: (907) 424-3212  
Fax: (907) 424-3235

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**FISHERY UPDATE  
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND SABLEFISH FISHERY  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE AND SEASON DATES**

The registration deadline date for the 2015 PWS sablefish fishery is **5:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 1** and the season dates are April 15 - August 31. Any permit holder failing to register by the April 1 deadline will not be allotted a share of the quota.

Only a PWS sablefish limited entry (LE) permit holder or their authorized agent possessing a 2015 permit card may register. Registrations and log sheets are available at ADF&G offices in Homer, Anchorage, Kodiak and Cordova, and by appointment with the Alaska Wildlife Troopers in Seward and Valdez. Individuals can register by fax but must contact the ADF&G office in Cordova.

The 2014 harvest of 96,726 lb was the lowest harvest in the history of the fishery. Catch per unit effort (CPUE) in 2014 was also at its lowest level and has been in a general decline since 2000. Although the guideline harvest level (GHL) has been constant since 1993, the decreasing trends in harvest and CPUE indicate a need for reevaluation. The department is currently determining how to adjust the GHL for the 2015 season. In all likelihood, it will be an amount less than previous years.

After the registration deadline, the department will determine the quota allocations as specified in regulation (5 AAC 28.272) and will announce those allocations in a news release no later than April 8, 2015.

PWS sablefish permit holders are advised that recipients of a permanent or emergency transfer must re-register with the department prior to fishing.

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