

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*

*Scott Kelley, Director*



---

Contact:  
Asia Beder, BSAI Assistant Area Management Biologist  
Miranda Westphal, BSAI Area Management Biologist  
Phone: (907) 581-1239  
Fax: (907) 581-1572

Dutch Harbor Area Office  
P.O. Box 920587  
Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692

Date Issued: 03/13/2018

**ALEUTIAN ISLANDS STATE-WATERS SABLEFISH  
2018 GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL AND SEASON OPENING ANNOUNCED**

The state-waters sablefish season in the Aleutian Islands will open at 12:00 noon March 24, 2018 concurrent with the adjacent federal individual fishing quota (IFQ) sablefish season. The 2018 Aleutian Islands state-waters sablefish fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) is 381,000 pounds. The state-waters sablefish season will close when the GHL is reached or on November 7, 2018 concurrent with the federal IFQ sablefish season closure.

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 those participating in federal IFQ or Community Development Quota (CDQ) sablefish fisheries, must register for the state-waters sablefish fishery.

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. Vessel operators must contact the department prior to registration before longlining pots in the Western District of the South Alaska Peninsula Area.

Fishermen are required to submit a state-waters sablefish logbook to the Dutch Harbor Alaska Department of Fish and Game office within 7 days of each 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.

-end-