

RC

Alaska Board of Fish

Please consider this submission of substitute language for proposal 44 – 5 AAC 28.36X

Establish State water GHL Pollock fishery in areas (H) Cook Inlet, (K) Kodiak and (L) Chignik. Areas (H), (K) and (L) would have a combined GHL equal to twenty-five percent (25) % of the combined ABC of areas 620 and 630 of the Gulf of Alaska. State waters of areas (H), (K) and (L) would be open exclusively to GHL fishery. State water GHL Pollock fishery within areas (H), (K) and (L) would open January, 20th of each year and close when GHL harvested or by other regulations or December 31st of same year.

Legal gear For State water GHL Pollock fishery shall be limited to pelagic trawl and jig. Jig allocation shall not exceed 3% of total State Water Pollock GHL, initial jig allocation would be 1% of GHL, increasing the following year of reaching initial allocation to 2% to a maximum of 3%.

Use of pelagic trawl limited to only areas currently open by state regulation. All vessels using pelagic trawl gear would be required to have 100% observer coverage, with one observer onboard for all trips. As written in regulation 5AAC 39.163. All cost associated with the observer are determined to be an attendant fishing-related cost and must therefore be borne by the vessel owner or operator onboard whose vessel the observer serves. Develop observer program with consideration of section 16.05.251. (13); (A), (B), (C) and (D).

A vessel participating in State water GHL Pollock cannot be registered for any other fishery at the same time.

Establish PSC limits for king Salmon that are sustainable in coordination with NMFS. Ensure that State water GHL Pollock fishery is managed for sustainable abundance of both Pollock and King salmon.

Develop State water GHL Pollock management Plan, with initial first year of fishery to coincide with restructured Federal Gulf of Alaska Pollock fishery.

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