

PROPOSAL 115

5 AAC 28.1XX. New section.

Create a new commercial fishery for spiny dogfish sharks using pot gear in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, as follows:

Create a new Spiny Dogfish pot fishery in Southeast Alaska with regulations as described below to be determined by ADF&G.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?

1. Spiny Dogfish are currently an underutilized fishery.
2. In processing Spiny Dogfish nearly all of the carcass is utilized, (including some organs) except the head. When markets are developed this fishery could provide new revenue streams and opportunities for fishers, processors and communities.
3. Spiny Dogfish tend to travel in large dense packs by size and sex. Longline Spiny Dogfish fisheries in British Columbia's Strait of Georgia have resulted in concerns over the inability to fish selectively, resulting in unwanted harvests of fecund females. A pot fishery could resolve those issues by the fact that the fish are harvested live and can be released unharmed, coupled with regulations on:
 - a. Season duration,
 - b. Pot limits
 - c. Tunnel size
 - d. Escapement rings
 - e. Legal site retention (slot limits)

PROPOSED BY: Don Westlund and Larry McQuarrie

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