

**PROPOSAL 223**

**5 AAC 31.214. Shrimp pot guideline harvest level for Registration Area E.**

Remove the total allowable harvest threshold for the Prince William Sound Area commercial shrimp pot fishery, as follows:

We recommend removing the language of this threshold requirement for a commercial fishery. (Remove the whole first sentence of section 5 AAC 31.214)

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The existence of the TAH threshold for a commercial fishery to take place has no biological purpose at all for management of a healthy and sustainable resource. It unfairly penalizes commercial fishermen and the populous that depend on commercial fishermen for access to PWS Shrimp. The commercial fishery is managed in order to be able to catch and not overharvest the allotted GHL. This threshold is simply an allocative issue, punishing the commercial fishery and its beneficiaries unfairly.

An alternative way to solve this allocative penalty on the commercial fishery and its beneficiaries would be to increase the 40% commercial allocation in order to balance the negative effects of the threshold on the fishery.

**PROPOSED BY:** Whittier Fish and Game Advisory Committee

(EF-F17-094)

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