PROPOSAL 89
Modify the method for establishing the guideline harvest level in the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial geoduck fishery, as follows:

(g) The guideline harvest level for each area will be calculated as two percent of the most recent estimated biomass, using the mid-point of the one-sided 90 percent confidence interval, per year.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (SARDFA) would like to have ADF&G establish the Guideline Harvest Level for the geoduck clam fishery using the mid-point of the one-sided 90 percent confidence interval based on their assessment surveys. This would allow for a higher GHL while maintaining a conservatively managed fishery.

What would happen if nothing is changed? There would remain annual confusion as to whether ADF&G is managing for the lower end of the confidence level or the mid-point.

What are other solutions you considered? Why did you reject them? It is possible to discuss on an annual basis the department’s management goal, however SARDFA believes this would eliminate any confusion on how the fishery is being managed.

PROPOSED BY: Southeast Alaska Regional Dive Fisheries Association (HQ-F17-064)