

## **PROPOSAL 9**

### **5 AAC 28.272. Sablefish harvest, possession, and landing requirements for Prince William Sound Area.**

Clarify procedures for obtaining, completing, and submitting log sheets for the Prince William Sound Area sablefish fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 28.272 (f) is amended to read:

(f) **An operator of a vessel participating in the Prince William Sound Area sablefish fishery shall obtain sablefish log [LOG] sheets [FOR THE LONGLINE SABLEFISH FISHERY WILL BE ISSUED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION] provided by the department. The vessel operator must have the log sheets on board the vessel at all times and must submit to the department no later than seven days following delivery completed log sheets that correspond with each ADF&G sablefish fish ticket. [LOG SHEETS MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED, AND RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S CORDOVA OFFICE, AT THE ADDRESS OR FACSIMILE NUMBER SPECIFIED ON THE LOG SHEET, WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER EACH LANDING OF SABLEFISH.]**

**(1) A log sheet under this section must:**

**(A) include the date, the specific location of harvest by latitude and longitude, the number of hooks fished or the number of pots fished, the average depth, and the time gear is deployed and hauled, for each set;**

**(B) include for the target species, and for each bycatch species, the number of fish retained and discarded for each set;**

**(C) be updated not later than 11:59 p.m. local time on the day after the day of operation; and**

**(D) be made available to a local representative of the department upon request.**

**(2) A person may not make a false entry in a log sheet described in this section.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Although the current regulation requires submission of completed log sheets, it does not outline the specific expectations of the vessel operator regarding completion of log sheets or the information required to be reported. Additionally, the proposed deadline for submission of log sheets will align with the deadline for submission of fish tickets. Log sheets are to be completed for each fishing trip and therefore correspond with a fish ticket(s). In December 2016, new regulations were adopted by the board regarding the submission of log sheets from the Cook Inlet Area sablefish fishery (5 AAC 28.360 (b)) and the submission deadline was aligned with the fish ticket deadline. Amending Prince William Sound Area (PWS) sablefish regulations would provide consistency between areas in Central Region. Fish tickets are due within seven days after delivery of fish and fishermen delivering to a processor will often submit log sheet(s) to industry staff when completing the fish ticket and the buyer will submit the log sheet with the corresponding fish ticket(s) to the department. This practice works well for timely receipt of log sheets, which is necessary for corroboration of harvest and effort data, and monitoring the fishery inseason. It is specified in regulation that fish tickets are due to the department within seven days of landing (5 AAC 39.130 (c)). However, it is

still the fisherman's responsibility to submit the log sheet and, for those fishermen that do not submit their log sheets to a buyer, the deadline for submission of log sheets to the department needs to be specified in regulation. Additionally, management of PWS groundfish fisheries is now occurring from the Homer office and specifying the office location is unnecessary and could be inaccurate; contact information is provided to fishermen at the time of registration.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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