

Proposal 116 RC:

- The decision to allow electric reels is what made the sport sablefish fishery feasible. At the time this decision was made there was an assurance that this was not a growing sport fishery but instead for a select group of clientele – the sport sablefish harvest data speaks differently to that.
- Other opportunity exists to target halibut, salmon, rockfish etc.
- We have a personal use limit for resident Alaskans
- The poundage taken by sport is deducted from the available sablefish harvest before the AHO (annual harvest objective) for the Chatham sablefish fishery has been set in the past 3 years. That deduction has a DIRECT negative impact on historic commercial users.
- The majority of the sport sablefish harvest is taken by non-residents
- WITH the proposed sablefish bag limit in place, non-resident anglers in SE will still be allowed a total groundfish/salmon daily bag limit of 35 fish.
- The sport harvest has INCREASED as the resource has declined in Northern Southeast Inside (Chatham Permit). There is between 47,000-57,000 round pounds being taken off the top. Chatham permits are down to less than 10,000 pounds per permit annually. Sport harvest is a significant portion of catch in northern southeast inside waters.
- The cost of reallocation of 100,000 pounds of sablefish from commercial to charter can be quantified
- Board of Fish may consider history of the use of a resource as allocation criteria
- Commercial fisheries (inside water sablefish permit holders) pay at least \$100,000 a year in CFEC fees to support management AND there is close to 100% observed landings.

Reference RC 269 for additional information on this proposal.

Best,

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