PROPOSAL 23

5 AAC 58.022. Waters; seasons; bag, possession, annual, and size limits; and special provisions for Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.

Reduce Lower Cook Inlet lingcod sport limits as follows:

Current Lower Cook Inlet Saltwater Regulations for sport fishing:

2 per day, 2 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.

Proposed Change:

1 per day, 2 in possession, must be at least 35 inches long with head attached or 28 inches from tip of tail to front of dorsal fin with head removed.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current ADFG data for Lower Cook Inlet lingcod show that harvest is stable and relatively low. Many stakeholders have self implemented a 1-fish daily bag limit. Current area restrictions on Chinook salmon and on Pacific halibut may increase pressure on Lingcod and this is a concern for continued access. A reduction in daily bag limit to "1" also brings the area into alignment with North Gulf Coast and Prince William Sound.