ADFG STAFF ORAL PRESENTATION
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

SOUTHEAST ALASKA AREA
FINFISH REGULATORY PROPOSALS
February 24 – March 4, 2012 Ketchikan, Alaska

Sport Groundfish Fisheries

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Rockfish Proposals:

**210:** Require release of demersal shelf rockfish at depth. *(SUPPORT)*

**211:** Require release of rockfish at depth. *(SUPPORT)*

**212:** Increase the sport allocation of demersal shelf rockfish. *(NEUTRAL)*

**213:** Establish a point system for retention of rockfish. *(OPPOSE)*
Rockfish Assemblages

Rockfish
(genus *Sebastes*)

- **Pelagic**
  (dark, dusky, widow, yellowtail, black, and blue rockfish)

- **Nonpelagic**
  (all rockfish in the genus *Sebastes* except those defined as pelagic)

- **Other Nonpelagic**
  (all genus *Sebastes* not defined as pelagic or DSR)

- **DSR**
  (canary, china, copper, quillback, rosethorn, tiger and yelloweye rockfish)
Southeast Alaska Rockfish Harvest

Nonresident Anglers
Resident Anglers
All Anglers

Number of rockfish harvested

Year

Southeast Region Finfish Oral Report Tab 8 RC 3
Southeast Alaska Rockfish Management

- **Pelagic Rockfish**
  - Regional regulations have allowed for a daily bag limit of 5 fish and a possession limit of 10 fish since 1994.

- **Nonpelagic Rockfish**
  - Regional regulations have allowed for a daily bag limit of 5 fish and a possession limit of 10 fish since 1994.
2006 – The board allocated 16% of the Southeast Outside Subdistrict allowable biological catch (ABC) of demersal shelf rockfish (DSR), to the sport fishery after the estimated subsistence harvest has been subtracted from the ABC.
Southeast Outside Subdistrict
Southeast Outside Subdistrict
Rockfish Management

The board outlined a series of eight management measures that the commissioner may implement by emergency order to modify existing sport fish regulations to keep the sport fishery within its allocation.

1. reduced bag and possession limits for nonresident anglers;
2. retention of all demersal shelf rockfish caught by a nonresident angler is required until the nonresident bag limit is reached;
3. charter operators and crewmembers may not retain demersal shelf rockfish while clients are on board the vessel;
4. annual limits for demersal shelf rockfish for nonresident anglers;
5. reduce the bag and possession limits for resident anglers;
6. retention of all demersal shelf rockfish caught by a resident angler is required until the resident angler’s bag limit is reached;
7. annual limits for demersal shelf rockfish for resident anglers; and
8. time and area closures.
Southeast Outside Subdistrict Sport Mortality and Allocation of Demersal Shelf Rockfish

![Bar Chart]

- **Metric Tons of Demersal Shelf Rockfish**
  - Sport mortality
  - Sport allocation
Southeast Outside Subdistrict Mortality and Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) of Demersal Shelf Rockfish

![Graph showing mortality and allowable biological catch from 1994 to 2011. The graph includes data for commercial harvest, sport fishery, and allowable biological catch.]

- **Mortality (metric tons)**
- **Year**
- **Commercial Harvest**
- **Sport Fishery**
- **Allowable Biological Catch**
Deepwater Release of Rockfish
Deepwater Release of Rockfish
Lingcod Proposal:

221: Increase the sport allocation of lingcod in Central Southeast Outside Sector and Southern Southeast Outer Coast Sector. (NEUTRAL)
## Lingcod Management

- **Sport Lingcod Allocation of GHL by Area**
  - Icy Bay Subdistrict: 33%
  - East Yakutat Section: 2%
  - Northern Southeast Outside Section: 22%
  - Central Southeast Outside Section: 30%
  - Southern Southeast Outer Coast Sector: 44%
  - Southern Southeast Internal Sector: 92%
  - Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict: 50%
Lingcod Management Area IBS

[Map of Lingcod Management Area IBS with regions marked]
IBS Lingcod Harvest Performance

Icy Bay (Sport Allocation = 33,330 lbs.)
Lingcod Management Area NSEO
NSEO Lingcod Harvest Performance

NSEO (Sport Allocation = 8,800 lbs.)
Lingcod Management Area CSEO
CSEO Lingcod Harvest Performance

CSEO (Sport Allocation = 72,000 lbs.)
CSEO Lingcod Harvest and GHL

Yearly harvest and groundfish harvest limit (GHL) from 2001 to 2010.

- **Sport**
- **Longline**
- **Troll**
- **Directed**
- **Groundfish Jig**
- **All Gear GHL (240,000 lbs)**

Harvest targets and actual catches for each year are shown.
Lingcod Management Area SSEOC
SSEOC Lingcod Harvest Performance

SSEOC (Sport Allocation = 73,480 lbs.)
SSEOC Lingcod Harvest / GHL

- Sport
- Longline
- Directed
- Groundfish Jig
- Troll
- All Gear GHL (167,000 lbs)
- Confidential (Incomplete) Harvest

Yearly Harvest by Gear:

- 2001: All Gear GHL (167,000 lbs)
- 2002: Groundfish Jig
- 2003: Groundfish Jig, Longline
- 2004: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
- 2005: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
- 2006: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
- 2007: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
- 2008: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
- 2009: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
- 2010: Groundfish Jig, Longline, Directed
Lingcod Management Area SSEIW
SSEIW Lingcod Harvest Performance

SSEIW (Sport Allocation = 47,840 lbs.)
NSEI Lingcod Harvest Performance

NSEI (Sport Allocation = 16,000 lbs.)

Sablefish Proposal:

216: Repeal the nonresident sablefish annual limit.  (NEUTRAL)
Sablefish Regulations

- Prior to 2009 no bag, possession, or annual limit had been established for sablefish.

- Resident
  - Bag limit is 4 fish, 4 fish in possession, no size restrictions.

- Nonresident
  - Bag limit is 4 fish, 4 in possession, no size restrictions, and an 8 fish annual limit.
Sablefish Harvest
Saltwater Charter Logbook

– In 2009 the reported harvest was 3,844 sablefish

– In 2010 the reported harvest was 3,927 sablefish

– Over 80% harvested from NSEI
2010 guided nonresident anglers targeting bottomfish

No Sablefish harvest 98%

Less than annual limit of Sablefish 1%

Anglers reaching their limit of Sablefish 1%

N = 31,505 anglers
Sablefish Harvest

Statewide Harvest Survey

– An estimated 4,793 sablefish were taken in 2010 in Southeast Alaska by all sport anglers (guided and unguided).
Spiny Dogfish Proposal

- **207**: Increase the bag limit of spiny dog fish from 5 to 10 daily. *(OPPOSE)*
  - During the 2010 statewide meeting, the board liberalized spiny dogfish bag and possession limits to five daily with no annual limit.
  - Between 2005 and 2010, the SWHS estimates an average of 247 sharks were harvested annually. Assuming 100% of harvested sharks were spiny dogfish, a maximum of 49 anglers would have had the potential to reach their bag limit under current regulations.
  - No increase in the 2010 SWHS estimate of sharks in Southeast Alaska was observed in response to the liberalized bag limits.