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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Contact:  
Kristen Green

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Sitka Area Office  
304 Lake St. Room 103  
Sitka, AK 99835  
Date: April 18, 2013  
Time: 2:30 p.m.

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#### CALL FOR BIDS FOR THE NSEI SABLEFISH LONGLINE SURVEY

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) intends to use three chartered commercial fishing vessels to conduct a longline survey assessing relative abundance of sablefish in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict. Chartered longline vessels will be contracted for up to 14 days beginning July 28, 2013. Survey vessels may accommodate up to three NSEI permit holders however, a vessel does not need to have a permit holder on board to bid or participate in the survey. Permit holders will be authorized to sell sablefish harvested aboard the vessel in an amount equal to their 2013 Personal Quota Share (PQS). Participating permit holders must be present on the vessel until their PQS is offloaded and recorded on a fish ticket (i.e. during the mid-trip offload to a tender).

The survey encompasses a northern, middle, and southern portion; each portion includes 14 or 15 sets. Survey portions will be bid separately. The lowest bidding vessel meeting all contract requirements will be selected for each portion. The survey is expected to require seven days of fishing and travel time, but weather or mechanical problems could extend this. Vessels must be a minimum of 50 feet in overall length. Interested vessel owners must provide a vessel captain with five years experience operating a longline fishing vessel in Alaskan waters. In addition, three crew members must be provided, two of which must have a minimum of three years commercial longlining experience. The department will provide bait, hooks, and longline skates. Survey vessels will be responsible for fuel and other fishing gear. Two department staff will be deployed on each vessel to collect survey data. Meals and accommodations for department staff will be provided by the contract vessel. Interested vessels must have passed a United States Coast Guard Commercial Fisheries Vessel Safety Inspection in the past 12 months. The department will provide bid packets to interested parties. Bid packets are due to Kristen Green in the Sitka Area Office no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 10, 2013.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

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<i>ADF&amp;G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	945-3620	784-3220
<i>Groundfish Hotline</i>				747-4882				

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