PROPOSAL 120

5 AAC 28.110. Sablefish fishing seasons for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Modify fishing seasons in the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict commercial sablefish fishery to allow concurrent fishing with pot and longline gear, as follows:

(a) In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, sablefish may be taken only as follows:

. . .

(2) in the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict, from 8:00 am June 1 until 12:00 noon November 15 for longline and pot gear.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Longline permit holders in the Southern Southeast Sablefish Fishery will be allowed to use pots to harvest their sablefish begining in 2018. The longline season is currently June 1 to August 15 for the nineteen permit holders. The current pot fishery allows the three permit holders to fish from September 1 to November 15. All 22 permit holders should have the option to fish either gear for the duration of the current fishing season.