

PROPOSAL 204

5 AAC 28.130 Lawful gear for Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area.

Allow pots to be longlined in the state waters of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska commercial Pacific cod fishery.

In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, pots may not be longlined, except that pots may be longlined in the Pacific Cod fishery and in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict and Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict Sablefish fishery. In a directed fishery for Sablefish pots used to take Sablefish must have at least two circular escape rigs with a minimum inside diameter of three and three-fourths inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area longlining pots for Pacific cod is currently not allowed. Longlining pots have proved to be a very efficient, low bycatch way of harvesting Sablefish in both the Federal and State fisheries. I would like the opportunity to use the same gear in the Pacific Cod fishery.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Through conversations with fishery managers and fellow fisherman.

PROPOSED BY: Jared Bright

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