

PROPOSAL 208

5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Allow retention of demersal shelf rockfish by nonresidents, as follows:

Establish a bag and possession limit for Demersal Shelf Rockfish (DSR) for Non-Residents.

Non-Resident bag limit of one fish; possession limit of one fish; annual limit of one fish; no size limit.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Currently, non-residents cannot harvest any DSR species (Quillback, Copper, Canary, China and Tiger). There is no survey and/or data that shows a conservation concern for the DSR species. Anglers commonly catch all species of rockfish in Southeast Alaska and the inability to harvest these species is a lost opportunity to the sport fishery. Most anglers agree that all the DSR rockfish are excellent table fare and readily abundant. The mandatory use of deep water release mechanisms has significantly reduced release mortality.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Yes. This prop was developed in the Craig AC.

PROPOSED BY: Craig AC

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