

PROPOSAL 301

5 AAC 55.055. Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan.

Modify the Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan, as follows;

Modify 5 AAC 55.055 section (a) by adding:

(4) The estimated total allowable harvest for the waters described in 5 AAC 31.210(a) must be more than 110,000 pounds of spot shrimp by round weight before a sport or personal use shrimp pot fishery may be opened.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current spot prawn management plan closes the commercial fishery when the total allowable harvest for both commercial and noncommercial falls below 110,000lbs. It does not have a similar closure requirement for noncommercial, even though they harvest a larger share of the TAH. Allowing sport and personal use harvest when the population is depressed below that which could support a commercial fishery should not be allowed because these user groups have the same priority under law. We propose an identical closure of sport and PU as is regulated for commercial use if the shrimp stocks fall below the 110,000 lb threshold.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU)

(EF-F24-139)
