

PROPOSAL 244

5 AAC 31.214. Shrimp pot guideline harvest level for Registration Area E.

Modify annual shrimp guideline harvest level based on fishery performance in the prior season, as follows:

I propose that after the annual guideline harvest level (GHL) for the fishery is biologically determined, then an adjustment to the GHL be made as follows:

If in the previous year there was an overharvest, then the amount of that overharvest (lbs) be deducted from the biologically determined GHL, and the result of that will be the adjusted GHL for the year, that ADFG can manage as best it can to not exceed.

Conversely, if in the previous year there was an underharvest, then the amount of that underharvest (lbs) be added to the biologically determined GHL, and the result of that will be the adjusted GHL for the year.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The sport/personal use catch of PWS Spot shrimp has often overharvested the allotted GHL, thereby negatively damaging the resource biomass, placing the future of the shrimp fisheries in jeopardy.

There is currently no penalty for that, and the shrimp biomass continues to be over-exploited. With a history of demonstration of absence of effective in-season harvest management adjustment capability, something should be done about this.

PROPOSED BY: Gordon Scott

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