

E Staff Tasking
Sablefish Council Motion
April 9, 2018

Initiate a discussion paper to consider modifying the requirement to retain small sized sablefish in the Alaska IFQ longline and pot fisheries (GOA and BSAI).

The discussion paper should include a description of available data to inform development of a discard mortality rate for sablefish in the Alaska longline and pot fisheries, with the intent of informing potential changes in retention regulations to allow for the release of smaller sablefish.

The paper should include a discussion about the potential trade-offs of a minimum size requirement regulation for sablefish versus allowing careful release of small juvenile sablefish.

The paper should include an economic section describing the value of sablefish of different sizes.

The paper should also include a discussion about the effects on observer sampling of modifying the sablefish retention requirement.