

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES
January 15-21, 2012
SOUTHEAST AND YAKUTAT KING AND TANNER CRAB; DUNGENESS CRAB; SHRIMP;
AND MISCELLANEOUS SHELLFISH

PRELIMINARY ACTIONS

(This board summary is for informational purposes only and the actions below will have legal effects in regulations that provide the sole legal action of the board.)

C=Carried, F=Failed, C/A= Carried as Amended, N/A=No Action

60 Total Proposals

(Proposals 141-144 were bifurcated to be considered at the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish meeting.)

ACTION – PROPOSAL NUMBER – SUBJECT

Shellfish (9)		
General (3)		
N/A	139	Clarify where personal use shellfish regulations apply. <i>(ADF&G withdrew support to bring forward as a statewide issue at a later date.)</i>
F	140	Establish a catch report card system for subsistence, personal use, and sport shellfish fisheries.
F	141	Prohibit fishing for bottomfish and shellfish near Cache Island by all users. (This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish meeting.)
Sport Shellfish (6)		
F	142	Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish in a portion of Behm Canal. (This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish meeting.)
N/A	143	Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish near Naha Bay. (This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish meeting.) <i>(Based on actions taken on Proposal 142.)</i>
N/A	144	Prohibit nonresidents from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish near Cedar Island. (This proposal is also scheduled for consideration during the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish meeting.) <i>(Based on actions taken on Proposal 142.)</i>
C	145	Reduce the shrimp pot limit for the sport fishery.
F	146	Close sport fishing for Dungeness crab in areas closed to commercial fishing.
C	147	Amend registration requirements for the George Inlet super exclusive guided sport ecotourism Dungeness crab fishery.
King and Tanner Crab (13)		
Personal Use (4)		
F	148	Allocate all harvest of king crab in Section 11-A (Juneau area) to the personal use fishery.
C	149	Establish ring net limits for the subsistence, sport, and personal use Dungeness and Tanner crab fisheries. <i>(In addition, a board generated proposal will be submitted at the Statewide meeting in March to address marking requirements for ring nets.)</i>

C	150	Establish king and tanner crab size limits in the personal use and subsistence fisheries.
C	151	Amend live holding regulations for personal use and subsistence king and Tanner crab fisheries.
Commercial Use (9)		
F	152	Revise the Southeast Red King Crab Management Plan to allow equal quota harvest for commercial permit holders when the threshold of available biomass is below 200,000 pounds.
N/A	153	Revise the Southeast Red King Crab Management Plan to allow equal quota harvest for commercial permit holders when the threshold of available biomass is below 200,000 pounds. <i>(Based on actions taken on Proposal 152.)</i>
F	154	Prohibit the use of square pots for golden king crab fishing in Registration Area A.
F	155	Reduce the pot limit in the golden king crab and Tanner crab fisheries in Registration Area A.
C	156	Clarify when six and one-half inch male golden king crab may be retained.
F	157	Redefine the start date for Tanner and golden king crab fisheries.
C	158	Add additional language that defines how weather delays may impact Tanner and king crab fishing seasons.
N/A	159	Amend regulation to allow 120 pots for vessels with two Tanner permits aboard. <i>(Author withdrew support for the proposal.)</i>
N/A	160	Amend regulations to allow additional pots in the king and Tanner fisheries for vessels with two permits aboard. <i>(Author withdrew support for the proposal.)</i>
Dungeness Crab (7)		
Closed Waters (4)		
F	161	Close commercial Dungeness crab fishing in Taku Harbor.
F	162	Close commercial Dungeness crab fishing in Swanson Harbor.
F	163	Close commercial Dungeness crab fishing in Excursion Inlet of District 14.
F	164	Close commercial Dungeness crab fishing in the Ketchikan vicinity.
Commercial Use (3)		
C/A	165	Amend regulation regarding buoy markers in the Dungeness crab fishery. <i>(Amended with substitute language reflected in RC33.)</i>
F	166	Revise season dates for commercial Dungeness fishery in Southeast districts 1 and 2.
C/A	167	Reduce number of Dungeness crab pots allowed on vessels in Yakutat Area. <i>(Amended to include the requirement of marking requirements with buoy tags.)</i>

Shrimp (10)		
F	168	Revise management plan for the southeast pot shrimp fisheries allowing extra fishing time per subdistrict.
N/A	169	Establish section sub-divisions in all districts of shrimp fishery. <i>(No Board authority.)</i>
N/A	170	Revise the commercial southeast pot shrimp fishery management plan utilizing inseason catch data. <i>(Based on actions taken on Proposal 171.)</i>
C/A	171	Establish a spawner index system for the Southeast Alaska spot prawn pot fishery. <i>(Amended with substitute language reflected in RC29 and as amended in RC32.)</i>
F	172	Close the commercial shrimp fishery in the vicinity of Skagway from September 1-March 1 annually.
F	173	Revise the opening dates for the shrimp pot fishery in Registration Area A.
F	174	Establish set times for deploying or retrieving shrimp pots in Registration Area A.
F	175	Revise marking requirements for shrimp pots in Registration Area A.
C	176	Prohibit registration for the commercial beam trawl shrimp and Dungeness crab fishery at the same time.
N/A	177	Establish a Beam Trawl Task Force. <i>(No Board authority for creating Task Force into regulation.) (Beam Trawl Task Force was discussed and placed in Miscellaneous Business.)</i>
Miscellaneous Shellfish		
Sea Cucumbers (5)		
N/A	178	Establish a variable harvest strategy for sea cucumbers. <i>(ADF&G withdrew support for proposal.)</i>
F	179	Revise sea cucumber management plans to account for predation by sea otters.
C	180	Amend allowable fishing days during the week of Thanksgiving for the sea cucumber fishery in the Ketchikan area.
F	181	Amend allowable daily dive time for the sea cucumber fishery in areas north of Sumner Strait.
C	182	Prohibit diving of unlicensed CFEC sea cucumber permit holders 48 hours before, during, and 48 hours after commercial sea cucumber fishery openings in Southeast Alaska.
Geoducks (12)		
Harvest Strategy (8)		
N/A	183	Establish an equal-share harvest program within the Southeast Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan. <i>(No Board authority.)</i>
N/A	184	Under an equal-share harvest program, require preseason registration for the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery. <i>(No Board authority.)</i>
F	185	Open geoduck fishery year round to provide consistent monthly harvest.
F	186	Extend geoduck fishery year round from July 1 to June 30.

N/A	187	Establish a trip limit program for the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery. <i>(No Board authority.)</i>
N/A	188	Amend number of harvest days and times for the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery to allow for preseason control of harvest for the fishery. <i>(No Board authority.)</i>
N/A	189	Establish a weekly rate of harvest schedule for the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery. <i>(No Board authority.)</i>
F	190	Revise harvest rotation areas for the geoduck fishery in Ketchikan and Craig to provide consistent annual harvest in the fishery.
Gear (3)		
F	191	Limit length of air and water hoses to 300 ft. in the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery.
F	192	Establish a minimum distance of 200 yards between vessels in the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery.
C	193	Prohibits divers from using gear in commercial openings following unauthorized use of gear and allow divers to dive on aquatic farm sites.
Registration (1)		
C	194	Amend the registration requirements for red sea urchins, sea cucumbers, and geoducks in Registration Area A.
Abalone (2)		
C/A	195	Reduce the bag and possession limits for abalone from 50 to 10 in the subsistence and personal use fisheries. <i>(Amended with substitute language reflected in RC38.)</i>
N/A	196	Restrict the subsistence, personal use, and sport abalone fisheries. <i>(Based on actions taken on Proposal 195.)</i>
Razor clams (2)		
C/A	197	Clarify application of the personal use regulation and close the personal use razor clam fishery in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area. <i>(Amended with substitute language reflected in RC40.)</i>
C/A	198	Close the subsistence razor clam fishery in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area. <i>(Amended with substitute language reflected in RC40.)</i>

Miscellaneous Business:

- Agenda Change Request #11, submitted by ADF&G to remove the Bristol Bay red king crab minimum total allowable catch, was accepted by the Board and will be considered during the Statewide meeting in March 2012.
- The Petition submitted as RC 45 by Mr. Doug Karlberg regarding the Yukon District 4 commercial chum salmon fishery was accepted by the Board and will be considered during the Statewide meeting in March 2012.
- Task Forces:
 - The Sea Otter Industry Task Force was discussed. It was clarified that this task force already exists and John Jensen will continue to participate on a volunteer basis.

- The Board discussed and decided against the establishment of a Shrimp Beam Trawl Task Force.
 - The Board discussed and accepted the new charge statement provided by both the department and the Shrimp Pot Task Force set forth in RC35.
 - The Board discussed and accepted the new charge statement provided by the department and the King and Tanner Crab Task Force set forth in RC47.
- Board Members Kluberton and Smith provided an update on Joint Board Meeting preliminary work. The Board of Fisheries and Board of Game have agreed to move forward with sending out an informal solicitation notice to seek potential issues that could be considered to help determine if a Joint Board Meeting should be scheduled. The initial Joint Board Committee Members will meet next week to revisit the draft solicitation notice to further discuss the details. An update on this effort will be discussed during the Southeast and Yakutat Finfish meeting scheduled for February 24-March 4, 2012, in Ketchikan.
 - Board Member Smith provided a briefing on the *Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan*.
 - A healthy discussion was had by the Board and Department of Law to help clarify Board Member's participation on conflicted proposals. Department of Law recommends Board Members who have conflicts NOT participate in discussions during deliberations and voting on those proposals. It is within the Chair's discretion to determine if a Board Member who has conflicts can participate in the committee process to assist in providing their expertise and knowledge within such a complex process.
 - The Board discussed the possibility of sending a letter to the International Pacific Halibut Commission to request updated bycatch information, but after further discussion it was determined a letter from the Board would not be appropriate at this time.
 - Board Member Webster will assist in developing a Board generated proposal for Proposal 149 regarding marking requirements for ring nets to be considered during the Statewide meeting in March 2012.

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member Kluberton.
January 17, 2012

5 AAC 31.115. Shrimp pot guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A.

(a) Expect as provided for in 5 AAC 31.145(h), the [THE] following are the guideline harvest ranges for the taking of shrimp by pots in Registration Area A:

- (1) District 1: 0 to 164,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (2) District 2: 0 to 120,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (3) Section 3-A: 0 to 264,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (4) Sections 3-B and 3-C: 0 to 70,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (5) District 4: 0 to 28,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (6) District 5: 0 to 20,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (7) District 6: 0 to 82,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (8) District 7: 0 to 104,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (9) District 8: 0 to 28,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (10) District 9: 0 to 18,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (11) District 10: 0 to 58,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (12) District 11: 0 to 20,000 pounds of spot and coonstripe shrimp;
- (13) District 12: Tenakee Inlet: 0 to 34,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (14) remainder of District 12: 0 to 15,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (15) Sections 13-A and 13-B: 0 to 15,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (16) Section 13-C: 0 to 50,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (17) District 14: 0 to 20,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (18) District 15: 0 to 20,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp;
- (19) District 16: 0 to 20,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp.

(b) For the purposes of this section, District 12: Tenakee Inlet includes the waters of District 12 that are west of a line from the easternmost tip of East Point to South Passage Point.

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member Kluberton.
January 17, 2012

5 AAC 31.115. Shrimp pot guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A.

(a) The following are the guideline harvest ranges for the taking of shrimp by pots in Registration Area A:

- (1) District 1: 0 to 164,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (2) District 2: 0 to 120,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (3) Section 3-A: 0 to 264,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (4) Sections 3-B and 3-C: 0 to 70,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (5) District 4: 0 to 28,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (6) District 5: 0 to 20,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (7) District 6: 0 to 82,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (8) District 7: 0 to 104,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (9) District 8: 0 to 28,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (10) District 9: 0 to 18,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (11) District 10: 0 to 58,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (12) District 11:
 - (A) Sections A, B, and C: 0 to 15,000 [20,000] pounds of spot and coonstripe shrimp;**
 - (B) Section 11-D: 0 to 30,000 pounds of spot shrimp;**
- (13) District 12: Tenakee Inlet: 0 to 34,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (14) remainder of District 12: 0 to 15,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (15) Sections 13-A and 13-B: 0 to 15,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (16) Section 13-C: 0 to 50,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (17) District 14: 0 to 20,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
- (18) District 15: 0 to 20,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp;

(19) District 16: 0 to 20,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp. (In effect before 1981;

(b) For the purposes of this section, District 12: Tenakee Inlet includes the waters of District 12 that are west of a line from the easternmost tip of East Point to South Passage Point.

5 AAC 31.145. Southeastern Alaska Area Pot Shrimp Fishery Management Plan.

(a) The purpose of the management plan under this section is to provide the department with direction for the management of the spot shrimp (*Pandalus platyceros*) and coonstripe shrimp (*Pandalus hypsinotus*) stocks in Registration Area A (Southeastern Alaska). The department shall manage the spot and coonstripe shrimp stocks for sustained yield according to the principles specified in the management plan under this section.

(b) The department shall manage

(1) all the districts or portions of districts, in Registration Area A based on the harvest of spot shrimp, except that

(A) District 11 shall be managed based on the harvest of spot and coonstripe shrimp; and

(B) Districts 15 and 16 shall be managed based on the harvest of coonstripe shrimp;

(2) the spot and coonstripe shrimp fisheries to

(A) maintain a number of age classes of shrimp to ensure the long-term viability of those stocks and reduce the dependence on annual recruitment;

(B) reduce fishing periods for shrimp stocks during the biologically sensitive periods of the shrimp's life cycle, such as egg hatch, growth, and recruitment, and when shrimp stocks are considered to be poor quality for the market place;

(C) reduce mortality of small shrimp of any species;

(D) maintain an adequate broodstock for the rebuilding of the shrimp stocks, if rebuilding becomes necessary.

(c) The department shall continue the development of the shrimp fisheries in Districts 4, 5, 8, [11], 14, 15, and 16, which have an historically low or sporadic harvest of shrimp with guideline harvest ranges of 0 - 20,000 pounds per district.

(d) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open a shrimp fishing season from May 15 through July 31 (summer season) in a district where the guideline harvest range was not reached during the season specified in 5 AAC 31.110 (winter season).

(e) The guideline harvest ranges for spot shrimp are specified in 5 AAC 31.115(1) - (10), and (12) - (14), and are based primarily on the average catch of pot shrimp from the 1990 - 1991 season through the 1994 - 1995 season.

(f) Repealed 7/18/2003.

(g) There are no specific guideline harvest ranges for coonstripe shrimp, but the allowable harvest of coonstripe shrimp will be based on the average catch of coonstripe shrimp in each district during the 1995 - 1996 season through the 1999 - 2000 season. The provisions of this subsection do not apply in Districts 15 and 16.

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Board Member Kluberton

January 17, 2012

5 AAC 32.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

(d) In Area A, all Dungeness crab pots and ring nets operated by a CFEC limited entry or interim use permit holder must be [IDENTICALLY] buoyed **essentially the same in color, shape, size and markings** [AND MARKED]. At least one buoy on each Dungeness crab pot or ring net must be legibly marked with the permanent ADF&G vessel license plate number of the Dungeness crab vessel operating the gear. The buoy, or multiple buoys attached to a Dungeness crab pot or ring net, may not bear more than one vessel license number. The vessel license number must be in symbols at least one and one-half inches high and at least one-quarter inch wide in color that contrasts with the background of the buoy.

5 AAC 32.170. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

(c) In Area D, all Dungeness crab pots and ring nets operated under a single registration must be [IDENTICALLY] buoyed **essentially the same in color, shape, size and markings** [AND MARKED]. At least one buoy on each pot or ring net must be legibly marked with only the permanent department vessel license plate number of the single vessel operating the gear. The buoy, or multiple buoys attached to a Dungeness crab pot or ring net, may bear only one number. The number must be in symbols at least one and one-half inches high and with lines at least one-quarter inch wide that contrast with the background.

Charge for Southeast Alaska Pot Shrimp Task Force

Purpose: An advisory industry group to provide direction and assistance to ADF&G on commercial pot shrimp management issues including:

1. Long-term management goals and plans
2. Research Plans
3. Stock Assessment and data collection
4. Management issues such as fleet capacity

The intent of this Task Force is to address commercial pot shrimp fishery management issues and is not to be forum for allocation.

Task Force Structure: All pot shrimp permit holders are welcome to attend and participate in the task force. The permit holders will elect a co-chair from industry and a vice co-chair to act as the liaison between industry and Dept. for development of issues, agendas to be discussed at task force meetings and co-chair the meeting with ADFG. The co-chair and vice co-chair once elected will remain until further replaced by a future election.

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

Charge for Southeast Alaska Beam Trawl Shrimp Task Force

Purpose: An advisory industry group to provide direction and assistance to ADF&G on commercial pot shrimp management issues including:

1. Long-term management goals and plans
2. Research Plans
3. Stock Assessment and data collection
4. Management issues such as fleet capacity

The intent of this Task Force is to address commercial pot shrimp fishery management issues and is not to be forum for allocation.

Task Force Structure: All pot shrimp permit holders are welcome to attend and participate in the task force. The permit holders will elect a co-chair from industry and a vice co-chair to act as the liaison between industry and Dept. for development of issues, agendas to be discussed at task force meetings and co-chair the meeting with ADFG. The co-chair and vice co-chair once elected will remain until further replaced by a future election.

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Vince Webster
January 18, 2012

Proposal 155

5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A; 5 AAC 35.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A. Reduce the pot limit in the golden king crab fisheries in Area A as follows:

Changing the pot limit from 100 pots per boat to 80 pots per boat for golden king crab fishery.

5 AAC 34.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

(2) when the commercial golden king crab season is open in Registration area A, and the commercial red king crab or Tanner crab season is closed, no more than **80** [100] king crab pots may be operated from a vessel registered to fish for king crab;

Proposal 196

5 AAC 77.670. Personal use abalone fishery. In the personal use taking of abalone

(1) there is no closed season;

(2) the daily bag and possession limit is [50] **5** abalone **per person** [EXCEPT IN SECTION 13-B NORTH OF THE LATITUDE OF DOROTHY NARROWS THE DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT IS 20 ABALONE];

5 AAC 02.135. Subsistence abalone fishery. In the subsistence taking of abalone

(1) the possession limit is [50] **5** abalone per person;

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

Unless otherwise specified through an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060 , and subject to the special provisions under 5 AAC 47.021 and the provisions of 5 AAC 47.024 - 5 AAC 47.095, the following are the general provisions for the seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits that apply to sport fishing for finfish and shellfish in the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area:

(10) abalone: **no open season; may not be taken or possessed;** [MAY BE TAKEN FROM JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31; BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT OF FIVE; NO ANNUAL LIMIT; MUST BE THREE AND ONE-HALF INCHES OR GREATER ACROSS THE WIDEST PART OF THE SHELL;]

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Mike Smith
January 18, 2012

5 AAC 02.130. Subsistence clam fishery.

- a) In the subsistence taking of geoducks the bag limit is six geoducks per person per day.
- b) **The Sitka Sound Special Use Area described in 5 AAC 77.764(3) is closed to the harvest of razor clams, except when opened by emergency order.**

5 AAC 77.668. Personal use Fishery.

(2)(C) **The Sitka Sound Special Use Area described in 5 AAC 77.674(3)(A) is closed to the harvest of razor clams, except when opened by emergency order.** [THE DAILY POSSESSION LIMIT FOR RAZOR CLAMS IS 10 CLAMS; ANY DAMAGED CLAMS TAKEN MUST BE RETAINED AND BECOME PART OF THE DAILY LIMIT]

RC47

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Charge to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
and Southeast Alaska King and Tanner Crab Task Force

The Alaska Board of Fisheries requests the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Southeast Alaska King and Tanner Crab Task Force to work together collaboratively for the following purposes.

The King and Tanner Crab Task Force is an advisory industry group that meets annually with ADF&G to exchange information (or perhaps interface) on commercial SE AK King crab and tanner crab management including:

1. Research plans and designs,
2. Stock Assessment and survey design (timing, methodology etc),
3. Data Collection (logbooks, sampling etc.)
4. Management issues of mutual concern (e.g. inseason communication, transparency, factors considered in establishing GHLS)
5. Long term management plans and goals.

Additionally, the KTTF (King and Tanner Task Force) and ADF&G will work together toward achieving consensus (to the extent possible) on king and tanner management proposals for the Board of Fish.

The King and Tanner crab fisheries and associated regulations should be compatible with a vision for the sustainable management of the Southeast Alaska Crab fisheries, outlined as follows:

1. Abundance based management by area with preseason GHLS, incorporating information about all stock segments;
2. Survey and stock assessment protocols in place that are understood by stakeholders;
3. In-season management targeting specific area GHLS;
4. Follow the policies set out in the board's King and Tanner Crab Policy
5. Maintain the concurrent tanner and golden king crab fisheries.