

Alaska Board of Fisheries
Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab Observer Oversight Task Force
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APPOINTMENT

The Alaska Board of Fisheries made initial appointment of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab Observer Oversight Task Force at the October 1999 work session. After initial appointment, task force members shall be appointed by the board at the king and Tanner crab meetings currently scheduled for 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011 and beyond.

TERM

Initial term for task force members shall be until 2002. Beginning in 2002, appointments shall be for a term of three years, corresponding to the board crab proposal cycle. Any vacancies will be appointed annually at the March meeting and the term will be for the remainder of the three-year cycle.

NUMBER OF TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND QUORUM

The task force will comprise 15 industry members. A quorum will be eight. The Board of Fisheries will attempt to achieve a broad representation, but specific appointments recognizing residency or size and class of vessels will not be required. If a vacancy occurs, a nomination shall be referred to the BOF for approval.

Understanding that the crab fisheries are conducted in a manner different than many other state managed fisheries, the board shall not consider representatives of stakeholders to be technical advisors, but shall recognize representatives as members of industry.

MEETING STRUCTURE

The task force will operate with a chair and vice-chair to be elected for a three-year term by the committee. Issues will be determined on a voting basis, with vote tallies to be reported to the board.

MEETING FREQUENCY

To be determined by the task force. The task force will coordinate meetings with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Attempts will be made to schedule meetings in conjunction with appropriate meetings of the Board of Fisheries and North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

FUNDING FOR TRAVEL

Task force members will be responsible for their own expenses to attend task force meetings.

TASK FORCE AUTHORITY

The task force shall exercise the following duties, authorities and responsibilities placed on it by the Board of Fisheries in regard to all aspects of the development, implementation, and continued operation of the BS/AI crab observer program.

- Report to and be advisory to the board
- Interact with and be advisory to the department

- Review and recommend specific action for all aspects of the BS/AI crab observer program, including:
 - a) Funding mechanisms for observer.
 - b) Budget and research priorities.
 - c) Types of observers to be used in the crab fisheries.
 - d) Issues of observer coverage, as well as duties and responsibilities of observers in the various fisheries.
 - e) ADF&G suggested program receipt requests.
 - f) Other issues that may arise.
- Review and provide recommendations to all appropriate entities regarding the amount and collection of cost recovery fisheries for the observer program in the BS/AI.

ANNUAL REPORTING AND RECOMMENDATION FORMAT

Prior to each March Board of Fisheries meeting, the task force shall receive a complete report from the Department of Fish and Game for the preceding year to include:

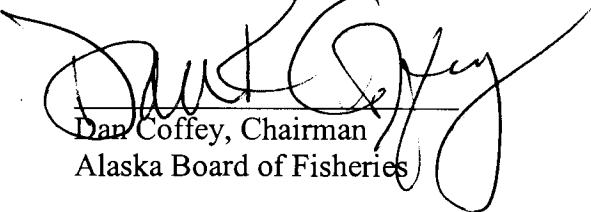
- Amount of funds collected in BS/AI crab cost recovery fisheries, along with an itemizing listing of fisheries from which funds were collected. Information shall include the names of vessels involved, pounds harvested, ex-vessel price, and other relevant information.
- A complete and detailed accounting on the use of funds collected in BS/AI recovery fisheries, including amounts utilized for observers, overhead and management, transportation, research, and all other associated costs.
- Complete observer data report for all fisheries with summaries and conclusions included.

Prior to each March Board of Fisheries meeting, the task force shall receive proposals from the Department of Fish and Game for the coming year to include:

- Proposed amount of funds for collection in BS/AI crab cost recovery programs
- Proposed budget for use of funds collected in BS/AI crab cost recovery programs.
- Anticipated levels of observer coverage in each specific fishery, as well as data specific goals for each fishery to be observed in the upcoming season.

Prior to the March Board of Fisheries meeting, the task force will review reports and proposals from the Department of Fish and Game and prepare written recommendations for the Board.

ADOPTED: 10/27, 1999
Fairbanks, Alaska


Dan Coffey, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries

VOTE: 7/0