

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.

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.

(h) The department may select areas listed in 5 AAC 31.115 to provide inseason management flexibility with management strategies. The department will continue to manage the pot shrimp fishery in these selected areas as specified in 5 AAC 31.145(b).

Alaska Board of Fisheries Committee Summary

COMMITTEE A

KING AND TANNER CRAB, MISCELLANEOUS SHELLFISH

January 17, 2012

Board Committee Members:

1. Bill Brown, Chair
2. Vince Webster
3. Sue Jeffrey

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Forrest Bowers – FBIV, Commercial Fisheries
2. Tom Brookover – Deputy Director, Division of Sport Fish
3. Brian Frenette – Regional Supervisor, Division of Sport Fish
4. Kristen Green – FBIII, Commercial Fisheries
5. Kyle Hebert – FBIV, Commercial Fisheries
6. Davin Holen – Regional Manager, Division of Subsistence
7. Bo Meredith – FBII, Commercial Fisheries
8. Adam Messmer – FBII, Commercial Fisheries
9. Jan Rumble – FBIII, Commercial Fisheries
10. Joe Stratman – FBIII, Commercial Fisheries
11. Daniel Teske – FBII, Division of Sport Fish
12. Scott Walker – FBIII, Commercial Fisheries
13. Meredith Marchioni – SRSIII, Division of Subsistence
14. Lauren Sill – SRSIII, Division of Subsistence
15. James Shewmake – Graduate Intern, Division of Subsistence

Alaska Wildlife Troopers

1. Lt. Steven Hall
2. Lt. Tory Oleck

Advisory Committee Members: (only those representing committees in committee)

1. Sitka AC – Pete Roddy

Public Panel Members:

1. Julianne Curry – PVOA – Commercial
2. Phil Doherty – SARDFa – Commercial
3. Arnold Enge – Self – Commercial
4. Kathy Hansen – SEAFa – Commercial
5. Jeremy Jensen – Self – Crab
6. Randy Lantiegne – Icicle – Processor
7. Yancey Nilsen – Self – Commercial
8. Ladd Norheim – Self – Crab
9. Gary Slaven – Self – Crab
10. Steve Thynes – Self – Commercial

Note: From proposal 180 through proposal 198, only Phil Doherty and Pete Roddy remained in the public panel.

Federal Subsistence Representative:

None.

The Committee met January 17, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (22 total) 150, 151, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 180, 181, 182, 186, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197 and 198.

PROPOSAL 150 – 5 AAC 77.614 Personal use king crab fishery; 5 AAC 02.125 Subsistence Tanner crab fishery; and 5 AAC 77.616. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. Implement a size limit for the Yakutat Area personal use king crab and implement a five and one half inch carapace width size limit for the subsistence and personal use Tanner crab fisheries in the Yakutat Area.

Comment Summary:

Department:

None.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 156 - 5 AAC 34.120. Size limits for Registration Area. Clarify when six and one-half inch golden king crab may be taken and possessed in the Lower Chatham Strait and Southern Areas.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- This would not repeal ability to open six and one-half inch golden king crab fishery in Lower Chatham Strait by emergency order.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Concern over never opening the six and one-half inch golden king crab fishery, if adopted.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 151 - 5 AAC 77.664. Personal use king crab fishery; 5AAC 77.666. Personal use Tanner crab fishery; 5 AAC 77.614. Personal use king crab fishery; 5 AAC 77.616. Personal use Tanner crab fishery; 5 AAC 02.120. Subsistence king crab fishery; and 5 AAC 02.125 Subsistence Tanner crab fishery. Prohibit the use of live holding facilities in the Dungeness crab, Tanner crab, and king crab personal use fisheries in the Southeastern Alaska and Yakutat Areas, and in the Dungeness crab, Tanner crab, and king crab subsistence fisheries in the Southeast Alaska-Yakutat Area.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Current regulatory language in place for Dungeness crab does not allow use of a live holding facility to store more than one bag limit; whereas king and Tanner crab language does.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Concern that this would define the hull of a boat as live holding tank, not allowing more than one bag limit to be stored there despite having others on board.

Enforcement:

- Need language to define live holding facility.

Public Panel Recommendation: Support with substitute language.

PROPOSAL 154 - 5 AAC 34.125 Lawful gear for Registration Area A. Eliminate square pots as a lawful gear type in the Southeast Alaska golden king crab fishery.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Making efforts to gather data and deploy observers on board golden king crab vessels during fishery.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Vessel configuration is issue when switching from squares to cone.
- Vessel configuration should not be an issue; many people fish both.
- PVOA - It is time for ADF&G and IPHC to improve bycatch data.
- PVOA - If square pots are eliminated based on limited data it will set precedent across the state; many other fisheries in Alaska employ square pots.
- Halibut bycatch does not happen in the deep waters of Chatham Strait.
- Compared to other fisheries the Southeast Alaska golden king crab fishery is very clean with little bycatch.
- Longliners kill 1,000 times more halibut as bycatch than crabbers.
- If crabbers don't turn halibut loose caught in pots, they are breaking the law.
- Possible solution to problem could be to install deterrents or configure square pots to top loaders.
- One concern is that fishermen may be using halibut bycatch as bait.
- PVOA – Suggests the board write a letter to the IPHC to update bycatch data.
- Phase-out option not preferred due to complications with multiple strings and vessel configuration.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

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 Southeast Alaska golden king crab fishery from 100 pots to 50 pots and reduce the pot limit in the Southeast Alaska Tanner crab fishery from 80 pots to 50 pots. Modify the Tanner crab harvest strategy.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Fisheries should be looked at separately; if adopted, the Tanner crab harvest strategy would need to be changed to reflect lower pot limit.
- Golden king crab fishery is more complex because boats can't haul all their gear on or off the grounds in one trip and cannot haul gear during strong tides.
- GHF is in place for three years so overharvest is not taken off of next year's GHF.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SEAFSA – Reduction in pots would lead to season extension, potentially interfering with other fisheries.
- Handling mortality would be a concern because pots would be hauled more often; escape mechanisms would be less effective.
- Not a biological issue, but a marketing issue, as the author of proposal is trying to extend the amount of time he can market live crab.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

PROPOSAL 157 - 5 AAC 34.110 Fishing seasons for Registration Area A; 5AAC 35.110 Fishing Seasons for Registration Area A. Adopt a fixed start date of February 15 for both Tanner and golden king crab fisheries in Southeast Alaska. This proposal would also clarify that the closing date for the Tanner crab fishery is determined through emergency order.

Comment Summary:

Department:

None.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SEAFAs – Everyone is opposed to going back to fixed start date.
- The intent of this opening was not to start at the exact date of the smallest tide, but perhaps two days prior.
- In some years, this would mean a start of the fishery during large tides, leading to gear conflicts.
- If opening occurs during large tides, some fishermen would switch to Tanner fishery, leading to more effort and potential gear conflicts in that fishery.
- Sitka AC – Supported this proposal to avoid confusion on opening date and also supported an 8 a.m. start time.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

PROPOSAL 158 - 5 AAC 34.110. Fishing seasons for registration Area A; 5 AAC 35.110. Fishing seasons for Registration Area A. Define weather-related criteria by which Tanner and king crab seasons would be delayed.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Fleet may be disbursed; this could lead to allocative issues.
- Need to keep start date in Tanner and golden king crab fisheries concurrent.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SEAFSA – Along with wind, must consider temperature and freezing spray.
- Suggested that if two of four areas don't meet weather criteria, then season is delayed. Later suggested that three out of four would be better.
- Mention of a March 1st start date, but that would lead to conflict with other fisheries.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

PROPOSAL 159 - 5AAC 35.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A. Allow 120 pots for vessels with two Tanner crab permits aboard.

Comment Summary:

Department:
None.

Department of Law:
None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SEAFA – Overwhelming support for this to be withdrawn.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support withdrawal.

PROPOSAL 160 - 5AAC 35.125. Lawful Gear for Registration Area A. Allow additional pots in the king and Tanner crab fisheries for vessels with two permits aboard.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Concerned about inseason management if latent permits became active.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support withdrawal.

PROPOSAL 180 – 5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.

Amend allowable fishing days during the week of Thanksgiving for the sea cucumber fishery in the Ketchikan area.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- This would be germane to all of Southeast, not just Ketchikan as stated in the proposal.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 181 – 5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.

Amend allowable daily dive time for the sea cucumber fishery in areas north of Sumner Strait.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Department has the authority to do this and has done so in the past.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 182 – 5 AAC 38.140. Southeastern Alaska Sea Cucumber Management Plan.
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.

Comment Summary:

Department:
None.

Department of Law:
None.

Public Panel Comments:
None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 186 – 5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan. Extend geoduck fishery year round from July 1 to June 30.

Comment Summary:

Department:
None.

Department of Law:
None.

Public Panel Comments:

- No information that shows prices would be higher in the summer versus the fall.
- Timing of overlapping salmon and shellfish fisheries would cause problems for processors. Shellfish handling requirements are different.
- Sitka AC – Supported, but were unaware of the department’s neutral position at the time.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

PROPOSAL 190 – 5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan. Revise harvest rotation areas for the geoduck fishery in Ketchikan and Craig to provide consistent annual harvest in the fishery.

Comment Summary:

Department:

None.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SARDFa – No new regulation needed to do something that is already being done with the department.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

PROPOSAL 191 – 5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan. Limit length of air and water hoses to 300 ft. in the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Logbooks are issued and it is reported that 95% of divers use 300 foot hoses.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SARDFa – Geoduck fishery is safe; no reported accidents of injury or death.
- SARDFa – Regulation not needed which limits diver’s ability to maximize harvest.
- Sitka AC – Supports this proposal.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

PROPOSAL 192 – 5 AAC 38.142. Southeastern Alaska Geoduck Fishery Management Plan. Establish a minimum distance of 200 yards between vessels in the Southeast Alaska geoduck fishery.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Could be a question of who anchored first, leading to enforcement issues.
- Concerns over boats swinging due to tide and wind.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- See comments on proposal 191.

Public Panel Recommendation: No consensus.

PROPOSAL 193 – 5 AAC 38.054. Unlawful use of dive fishing gear. Prohibits divers from using gear in commercial openings following unauthorized use of gear and allow divers to dive on aquatic farm sites.

Comment Summary:

Department:

None.

Department of Law:

- Board has the authority to adopt this proposal.

Public Panel Comments:

- SARDFa – Fully supports prosecuting illegal divers.
- Does the board have the authority to implement penalties for violations?

Alaska Wildlife Troopers:

- Lt. Hall – This language came from crab regulations prohibiting fishermen from prospecting before the fishery.
- Lt. Hall – Difficult to exclude diver from the entire season, as with the crab fishery, because of weekly fishing periods.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support with potential amended language.

PROPOSAL 194 – 5 AAC 38.146. Registration requirements for red sea urchins, sea cucumbers, and geoducks in Registration Area A. Amend the registration requirements for red sea urchins, sea cucumbers, and geoducks in Registration Area A.

Comment Summary:

Department:
None.

Department of Law:
None.

Public Panel Comments:
None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 195 – 5 AAC 02.135. Subsistence abalone fishery; 5 AAC 77.670. Personal use abalone fishery; and 5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska area. Reduce the bag and possession limits for abalone from 50 to 10 in the subsistence and personal use fisheries.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Felt that zero bag limit was not needed because there are limited viable populations.
- Abalone farming is not cost-effective in Southeast Alaska.
- Abalone are one of the first food sources when sea otters move into an area; abalone are not able to recover in areas with sea otters.
- Difficult to obtain personal use harvest information.
- Division of Subsistence researchers spoke with local residents who related that they were not participating in the fishery due to lack of abalone.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- SARDFA – Another example of trying to enforce sustained yield principle in an area effected by sea otters.
- Sitka AC – Supports proposal; realize there is a problem and would support eliminating sport harvest and reducing bag limits for PU and subsistence fishery.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 196 – 5 AAC 02.135. Subsistence abalone fishery; 5 AAC 77.670. Personal use abalone fishery; and 5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska area. Restrict the subsistence, personal use, and sport abalone fisheries.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Opposed to increasing minimum size limit.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- See comments on proposal 195.

Public Panel Recommendation: See comments in proposal 195.

PROPOSAL 197 – 5 AAC 77.668. Personal use clam fishery. Clarify application of the personal use regulation and close the personal use razor clam fishery in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Division of Subsistence researchers spoke with local residents who related they were not participating due to a lack of razor clams. Last survey in 1996 showed 0.02 lb. per capita harvest.

Department of Law:

None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Sitka AC – Sea otters moved in and removed all the razor clams in the 90s.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 198 – 5 AAC 02.130. Subsistence clam fishery. Close the subsistence razor clam fishery in the Sitka Sound Special Use Area.

Comment Summary:

Department:
None.

Department of Law:
None.

Public Panel Comments:

- See comments in proposal 197.

Public Panel Recommendation: See comments on proposal 197.

Alaska Board of Fisheries Committee Summary

COMMITTEE B

Shrimp, Dungeness Crab, and Sport Shellfish January 17, 2012

Board Committee Members:

1. Tom Kluberton, Chair
2. Mike Smith
3. John Jensen

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Staff Members:

1. Bill Davidson- FBIV, Regional Area Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
2. Troy Thynes- FBIII, Area Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
3. Quinn Smith- FBII, Shellfish Research Biologist II, Comm. Fish
4. Chris Siddon- Shellfish Biometrician III, Comm. Fish
5. Dave Harris- FBII, Assistant Area Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
6. Kellii Wood- Shellfish Technician IV, Comm. Fish
7. Patrick Fowler- FBII, Assistant Area Management Biologist, Sport Fish
8. Andrew Olson- FBII, Shellfish Research Biologist, Comm. Fish
9. Tom Brookover- Deputy Director, Sport Fish
10. Doug Fleming- FBIII, Area Management Biologist, Sport Fish
11. Dave Gordon- FBIII, Area Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
12. Bob Chadwick- FBIV, Regional Management Coordinator, Sport Fish
13. Troy Tydingco- FBIII, Area Management Biologist, Sport Fish
14. Scott Walker- FBIII, Area Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
15. Kevin Clark- FBII, Assistant Area Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
16. Joe Stratman- FBIII, Shellfish Management Biologist, Comm. Fish
17. Forrest Bowers- FBIV, Shellfish & Groundfish, Comm. Fish
18. Lisa Olson- Deputy Director of Subsistence
19. Sue Aspelund – Deputy Director, Comm. Fish
20. Al Cain – Criminal Justice Planner, Sport Fish

Advisory Committee Members:

1. William Farmer- Craig AC
2. Clay Bezenek- Ketchikan AC
3. Brennon Eagle- Wrangell AC
4. Mike Peterson- Juneau Douglas AC
5. Casey Mapes-Yakutat AC

Public Panel Members:

1. William Farmer – self
1. Clay Bezenek – self
3. Brennon Eagle – self
4. Mike Peterson – self
5. Ronald Leighton - Kasaan
6. Max Worhatch - self
7. Marsha Fernandez - self
8. Jeffrey Bell – Kasaan
9. Jerry Dahl – self
10. Otto Florschutz – self
11. Alan Reeves – self
12. Julianne Curry – PVOA
13. Ed Hansen - SEAFA
14. Kathy Hansen – SEAFA
15. Jim Stone – Alaska Scallop Assoc.
16. Bob Martin – self
17. Joe Willis – self
18. Randy Lantiegne – Icicle
19. Greg Fisk – self
20. Jenny Pursell - self

Federal Subsistence Representative:

1. None

The Committee met January 17, 2012 at 9:06 a.m. and adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

PROPOSALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WERE: (24 total) Shrimp (170-177), Dungeness Crab and Sport Shellfish (140-147, 149, 161-167).

PROPOSAL 170 – 5AAC 31.145. Southeastern Alaska Area Pot Shrimp Fishery Management Plan; and 5 AAC 31.115. Shrimp Pot Guideline Harvest Ranges for Registration Area A. Revise the commercial Southeast pot shrimp fishery management plan utilizing inseason catch data.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Department is in ongoing discussion with the Shrimp Task force concerning inseason management.
- There are some fundamental differences between British Columbia, Canada and Alaska which prevent the department from utilizing fishery performance data to the extent that B.C. does, such as: detailed logbooks, number of pot strings, single pot type, etc. We do not have a large consistent catch per pot dataset.
- We have had 2 consistent pot types since the Board of Fisheries meeting in 1997.
- CPUE data has only existed since 2003 so the department does not have a large reliable fishery database when compared to the B.C. fishery.
- Fishery performance data does indicate some things; a decline in catch rates is indicative of declining stocks. An improving abundance is not as easily identified through fishery performance data due to skill of fisherman, ability of the fleet to maintain strong catch rates, composition of catch, etc.
- The department does not have reliable data on the composition of the catch, i.e., size, sex, and bycatch.
- The department maintains a voluntary logbook program, but not all fishermen participate.
- The daily fish ticket (logbook) data is the best available harvest data.
- The department has collected voluntary logbook data, daily fish tickets, and size data when available. To date this information has not been used inseason. The department might need additional staff to perform inseason analysis.
- Logbook data has been analyzed postseason; however, data collected has been inconsistent and has not been applied to inseason management.
- Logbook data is from catcher/processors and the fleet is composed of catchers, catcher/sellers, and catcher/processors.
- District 7 has the most reliable logbook data due to the higher percentage of catcher/processors and most of them volunteered to fill out the logbook data.
- Catcher/seller product is tailed shrimp, while catcher/processor is whole shrimp so comparing tail and whole shrimp data would take further analysis.
- The department is willing to work towards inseason management, but would require better data and additional staffing due to the many other fisheries they manage such as, geoducks, herring, and salmon.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Management needs to react faster than the current management plan allows.

- Management needs to manage the fishery on an annual basis rather than every 3 years.
- Management needs to increase GHR levels to allow more flexibility in the GHL.
- Industry believes that fishery performance data would be an effective management tool.
- The department does not recognize that fishery performance data is a definitive indicator of stock health.
- Canadian management suggests fishery performance data is a useful indicator.
- The fleet is willing to provide data to the department. However, the department needs to have more trust in reports coming from the fleet.
- Logbooks could be mandatory in order to provide more data to the department.
- The GHL was not reached in some years due to international market conditions.
- The use of observers might provide the department accurate fishery performance data.
- The department already has the tools in place to collect data similarly to Canadian fisheries; they just need to require it.
- The current management plan leaves harvestable surplus unharvested.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

PROPOSAL 171 – 5 AAC 31.115. Shrimp pot guideline harvest ranges for Registration

Area A. Establish a spawner index-based management approach for the Registration Area A pot shrimp fishery.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Section (a) of RC 29 allows the department the ability to exceed GHRs while experimenting with inseason management approaches.
- An amendment was submitted to split District 11 into Seymour Canal (Section-D) and the rest of the district.
- The original amendment was to establish a 25,000 lb GHR of spot shrimp in Seymour Canal and a 15,000 lb GHR of spot and coonstripe shrimp in the remainder of the district.
- The department does not object to raising the GHR to 30,000 lb in Seymour Canal.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- The fleet is happy with the department's cooperation on raising the GHRs. The GHRs will be submitted as a separate RC.
- The fleet is happy with the possibility of the department experimenting with inseason management in one, two, or three areas.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

PROPOSAL 172 – 5 AAC 31.136. Closed waters in Registration Area A. Close the commercial shrimp fishery in the vicinity of Skagway from September 1–March 1 annually.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- The department clarified that all of District 15 was not opened for 3 years.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- The department has closed this area by emergency order in the past and it is unnecessary to have this proposal in regulation.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

PROPOSAL 173 – 5AAC 31.110. Shrimp pot fishing seasons and periods for Registration

Area A. Revise the opening dates for the shrimp pot fishery in Registration Area A.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

PROPOSAL 174 – 5AAC 31.124 (e)(5). Lawful shrimp pot gear for Registration Area A.

Establish set times for deploying or retrieving shrimp pots in Registration Area A.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- The department currently does not have data on the effects double hauling has on shrimp mortality.
- Higher proportions of small shrimp are caught with shorter soak times.
- Higher mortality rate is assumed with longer time spent out of water.
- It is difficult to enforce single hauling of gear.
- Extending fishing times to 12 hours would increase temptation for fishermen to double haul with a single-haul regulation in place.
- Moving the opening and closing time into nondaylight hours increases the difficulty for enforcement by aircraft.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- This proposal came in response to abysmal weather conditions.
- The intent was to provide flexibility for fishermen to complete one haul of pots in a single day.
- Proposal is unenforceable, but is an honorable intention.
- Regardless of enforceability, adopting this proposal would encourage fishermen to practice ethical fishing.
- The fleet does not favor extended fishing hours if single-haul regulations are not adopted.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus for a single haul of gear during the normal 8-hour day.

PROPOSAL 175 – 5 AAC 31.126. Shrimp pot marking requirements for Registration Area

A. Revise marking requirements for shrimp pots in Registration Area A.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Strings of gear can get too long which causes difficulty in locating pots.
- 2006 Board of Fisheries discussion resulted in a compromise which is captured in current regulation.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose.

PROPOSAL 176 – 5 AAC 31.128. Operation of other gear in Registration Area A. Prohibit a permit holder or permit holders from registering a vessel for the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery and the commercial Dungeness crab fishery at the same time. Clarify that more than one permit holder registering a single vessel for the commercial shrimp pot fishery and the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery at the same time is prohibited.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- Current regulation makes it clear that a vessel owner or operator cannot be registered for pot shrimp and beam trawl at the same time; department clarified that a person/ would be able to unregister from one fishery and register for another.
- The department is unaware of any instance where Dungeness crabs have been landed from a beam trawl.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Landing of Dungeness crabs in the beam trawl fishery is not a problem.
- Concern was expressed over retaining the ability to unregister from one fishery and register for another fishery.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

PROPOSAL 177 – 5 AAC 31.XXX. New regulation or new task force charge statement.

Create a Shrimp Beam Trawl Task Force.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Worried about the general state of the fishery because it is facing commercial extinction.
- Purpose of this proposal was to bring attention of this fishery to the Board of Fisheries.
- The decline in beam trawl shrimp can be attributed to economics especially with the rise in fuel prices.
- The Petersburg Indian Association is looking into a facility to process beam trawl pink shrimp.
- Concern exists that this fishery will change from a pink shrimp to a side-stripe shrimp fishery.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

PROPOSAL 140 – 5 AAC 02.1XX; 5 AAC 77.6XX; and 5 AAC 47.024. Harvest record required; annual limit. Establish a biannual catch report card system for recording harvest of all shellfish species in the subsistence, personal use, and sport shellfish fisheries and implement a penalty for late reporting.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- This proposal was submitted to open discussion and bring to the attention of the Board of Fisheries.
- Technology has improved drastically where keeping track of catch could simply be reported on a smartphone or tablet.
- Alaska sport fishing fees are cheaper than other states, such as WA.
- The concept is good, but funding is an issue.
- Washington State has fees for species-specific sport fisheries.
- We need acknowledgement or resolution from the Board of Fisheries to bring this to the state legislature.
- Accurate reporting of personal use, sport, and subsistence fisheries is greatly needed.
- Existing programs do provide adequate data, but holes do exist.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

PROPOSAL 141 – 5 AAC 28.150. Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; 5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A; 5 AAC 38.XXX. Closed waters; 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 77.6XX. *(This proposal erroneously cited only 5 AAC 28.150. Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A; and 5 AAC 38.XXX.)* Prohibit subsistence, commercial, sport, and personal use bottomfish and shellfish fisheries within 1,500 feet of Cache Island.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- This proposal will also be taken up in a Board of Fisheries meeting for finfish at a later date.

Department of Law: None.

Federal Subsistence Representative: None.

Public Panel Comments: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No support.

PROPOSAL 142– 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area. (*This proposal erroneously cited under 5 AAC 28.150. Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A; and 5 AAC 38.XXX.*) Prohibit nonresident anglers from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish in the contiguous waters of Behm Canal north of the latitude of Indian Point and south of the latitude of Bushy Point.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments: None.

Public Panel Recommendation: No support.

PROPOSAL 143 – 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area. (*This proposal erroneously cited under 5 AAC 28.150. Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A; and 5 AAC 38.XXX.*) Prohibit nonresident anglers from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish in the waters of Naha Bay east of a line from Donnelly Point to Cache Island to Indian Point.

Comment Summary:

Refer to comments on 142.

PROPOSAL 144 – 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska Area. (*This proposal erroneously cited under 5 AAC 28.150. Closed waters in Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area; and 5 AAC 32.150. Closed waters in Registration Area A; and 5 AAC 38.XXX.*) Prohibit nonresident anglers from fishing for bottomfish and shellfish within 1,500 feet of Cedar Island.

Comment Summary:

Refer to comments on 142.

PROPOSAL 146 – 5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt water of Southeast Alaska Area. (*This proposal was erroneously cited as 5 AAC 32.150.* Closed waters in Registration Area A.) Close the areas listed in 5 AAC 32.150 to sport fishing for Dungeness crabs.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Closing the sport fishery in these areas would serve the intent of preserving the harvest for local residents, yet nonresidents can still fish in other areas.
- Last Board of Fisheries cycle adopted a similar proposal for shrimp, but not for Dungeness crab.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 161 – 5AAC 32.150. Closed Waters in Registration Area A. Establish a closed area to the taking of Dungeness crab in Taku Harbor as follows:

Add “waters within Taku Harbor north and east of a line from Grave Point to Stockade Point”.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Opposed to closing an area where no biological or conservation concerns exist.
- The entirety of the Juneau road system is closed to commercial harvest of Dungeness crab.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to oppose

PROPOSAL 162 – 5AAC 32.150. Closed Waters in Registration Area A. Establish a closed area to the taking of Dungeness crab in Swanson Harbor as follows:

Add “waters within Swanson Harbor from the northern tip on the west side of Couverden Island to the southern end of Ansley Island”.

Comment Summary:

Refer to comments in 161.

PROPOSAL 163 – **5AAC 32.150. Closed Waters in Registration Area A.** Establish a closed area to the taking of Dungeness crab in Excursion Inlet.

Comment Summary:

Refer to comments in 161.

PROPOSAL 164 – 5AAC 32.150. Closed Waters in Registration Area A. Establish closed areas to the taking of Dungeness crab in Helm Bay and Traitors Cove.

Comment Summary:

Refer to comments in 161.

PROPOSAL 145 – 5 AAC 47.035. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish.

(This proposal was erroneously cited as 5 AAC 77.010. Methods, means and general restrictions; and 5 AAC 47.020. General provisions for seasons and bag, possession, annual, and size limits for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.) Reduce the number of pots an angler is allowed to use in the sport shrimp fishery from 10 to 5 and reduce the maximum number of sport shrimp pots fished from a vessel from 20 to 10.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Bag limits have recently been lowered; current gear limits are too liberal, leading to a temptation to exceed bag limits.
- If it takes 10 pots to get the current limit of 3 lb then there is not enough shrimp in the area to support harvest.
- Concern exists that liberal gear limits could lead to excessive handling mortality when shrimp in excess of bag limits are caught and released.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 149 – 5 AAC 02.115. Subsistence Dungeness crab fishery; 5 AAC 02.120. Subsistence king crab fishery; 5 AAC 02.125. Subsistence Tanner crab fishery; 5 AAC 47.035. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish; 5 AAC 77.612; Personal use Dungeness crab fishery; 5 AAC 77.614. Personal use king crab fishery; 5 AAC 77.616. Personal use Tanner crab fishery; 5 AAC 77.662. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery; 5 AAC 77.664. Personal use king crab fishery; and 5 AAC 77.666. Personal use Tanner crab fishery. Establish consistent limits for the number of ring nets a person is allowed, and a maximum number of ring nets allowed per vessel in the subsistence and personal use crab fisheries, and in the sport shellfish fisheries.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Support for this proposal because it is limiting the amount of gear you can use and not the amount of shellfish you retain.

Public Panel Recommendation: Consensus to support.

PROPOSAL 167 – 5AAC 32.170. Lawful gear for Registration Area D. Lower the maximum amount of gear allowed in the Registration Area D (Yakutat) commercial Dungeness fishery from 400 pots to 60 pots.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- The department has funding to administer a stock assessment survey in Yakutat this summer.
- There could be a large number of vessels which register in this fishery and the department would not be able to exclude opportunity to interested parties.
- The department is open to working with industry on collaborative stock assessment projects.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Would like to see a short season return in order to help collect fishery performance data.
- An opportunity should be given to the fishermen of Yakutat to provide economic benefit and a 60-pot limit would promote this.
- The fishery was not traditionally a local fishery.
- Like to see a sunset clause which would revert to a larger pot limit.
- Fishing 200 miles of beach with 60 pots is not economically viable.
- A 60-pot limit would have constraints on data collection.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

PROPOSAL 147 – 5 AAC 47.090. George Inlet superexclusive guided sport ecotourism Dungeness crab fishery. Extend the guide registration period for the George Inlet superexclusive guided sport ecotourism Dungeness crab fishery.

Comment Summary:

Department: None.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- The need to replace a guide should be allowed if needed.
- Should retain the provision limiting the guide from participating in other Dungeness fisheries and the guided sport fishery.
- Use care in the changes to preserve the original intent of current clauses.

Public Panel Recommendation: No opposition.

PROPOSAL 165 – 5 AAC 32.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A. Replace the word “identically” with “similarly” in reference to how an individual Dungeness crab fisherman’s gear is to be buoyed and marked.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- In the late 80s the department imposed a 300-pot limit on the fleet and imposed identical buoy marking and the fleet already did that.
- Identical buoys make it easier for enforcement to prosecute criminal mischief, such as fishing too many pots or stealing other fisherman’s crab.
- The department would not be opposed to change the wording of “identical” to “essentially similar in size, shape, color, and marking.”
- The other option is to remove this requirement.
- Department will submit an RC with recommended language.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Fishermen prefer unique markings for self identification and enforcement issues.
- Confusion has been generated over determining when sun-faded buoys are no longer the original buoy color.
- Need a much better word choice over “identical” buoys.
- Buoy tags also help identify pots.

Public Panel Recommendation: Support for alternate language.

PROPOSAL 166 – 5AAC 32.110. Fishing Seasons for Registration Area A. Maintain summer (June 15–August 15) and fall (October 1–November 30) Dungeness seasons for District 1, and change the season description for District 2 from a fall/winter season (October 1–February 28) to summer and fall seasons.

Comment Summary:

Department:

- RC 4 summarizes information on Dungeness shell condition. Crabs were sampled dockside upon landing, having already been sorted by fishermen; therefore, sampling may not provide an accurate representation of soft shell prevalence on fishing grounds.
- Soft shell prevalence is higher during the summer months, with the peak month of soft shells varying by area.
- The department does not have sufficient data on soft-shell prevalence during the winter months.

Department of Law: None.

Public Panel Comments:

- Commercial fleet would like the Dungeness crab fishing season to be consistent across all of Southeast Alaska.
- Residents of Kasaan are having difficulty fulfilling personal use and meeting their subsistence needs even in the absence of a summer commercial fishery.
- Maintaining a fall/winter fishery does not take away from the commercial fleet.
- More softshell crab was observed in the end of the winter fishery.
- Crabs have been soft every month regardless of fishing season.
- More data needs to be obtained on softshell crab to accurately assess when the molt cycle occurs in District 2 for Dungeness crab.
- There is not a large market for Dungeness crab during the winter months.
- Opening a summer fishery would provide jobs for the youth of Ketchikan.
- Kina Cove and Kohl Bay are the 2 major areas where commercial fishermen observed subsistence and personal use pots.
- The department always opposes opening summer fisheries.
- The presence of commercial pots inhibits the subsistence harvest of sockeye salmon by beach seine in Karta bay.
- More and more areas are getting closed to commercial fishermen so this proposal is supported to relieve gear crowding and concentration of the Dungeness fleet.
- Residents in Kasaan mentioned that with the cost of fuel rising it makes it difficult for them to meet their subsistence needs.

Public Panel Recommendation: None.

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.

Petersburg Fisheries a Division of Icicle Seafoods

By our records, the 2011 Summer Dungeness average weight was 2.08 pounds and the Fall Dungeness average weight was 2.11 pounds.

Charge for Southeast Alaska Pot Shrimp Task Force

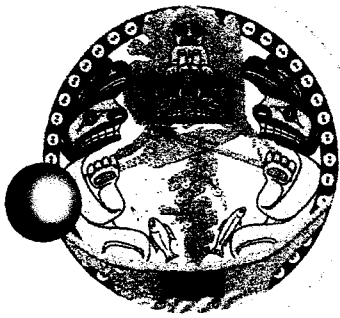
Purpose: An advisory industry group to provide direction and assistance to ADF&G on commercial pot shrimp management issues including:

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



RC36

ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF KASAAN

P. O. Box 26-Kasaan
(907) 542-2230

* Ketchikan, Alaska 99950-0340
* (fax) 907-542-3006

State of Alaska
The Board of Fisheries
OPPOSED TO PROPOSAL #166

January 18, 2012

The Organized Village of Kasaan's council unanimously voted not to consider any alternatives that would allow any portions of districts 2 opened to a summer commercial Dungeness crab fishery. That it is apparent that the summer commercial Dungeness crab fishery that was allowed to be fished in summer of 2009, has already made it impossible for our citizens to obtain their customary and traditional catch levels of Dungeness crab.

Knowing that the fall and winter commercial Dungeness crab fishery in district #2 has been ongoing and has worked well for both our needs and the needs of the commercial fisheries to obtain their guideline harvest levels, we feel it would not be beneficial to us and or the commercial interests to allow such a fishery.

We feel we cannot accept any compromise knowing how much damage has already occurred up until the mid 1980s when it was closed. That after this closure our catch levels slowly improved and were met finally in the early 1990s. This went on allowing our subsistence needs and catch levels to be obtained, along with the commercial fall and winter Dungeness crab fishery levels to be obtained. It went on this way up until the 2009 summer opening in district #2.

Knowing the above we feel that the evidence is clear and convincing, that the summer commercial Dungeness fishery is non-sustainable and according to Alaska's constitution, its laws and regulations this fishery can not be legally opened as it is non sustainable.

By opening another summer commercial Dungeness crab fishery in district #2, it does not address our subsistence needs and allow our citizens the ability to have reasonable expectations in achieving their customary and traditional harvest levels and will further damage their ability to achieve these levels.

With their needs already damaged to a point were they only can harvest no more then 20 percent of their customary and traditional this has to be studied and their needs meant before any other consumer groups may harvest. We attribute this damage as a direct result of the summer commercial Dungeness crab fishery that occurred in district #2 in 2009. By the board setting aside an area to non commercial harvests within districts #2, in Kasaan Bay, scowl Arm, Polk Inlet and all points in between, this will no way meet our needs in fore filling and attaining our customary and traditional levels of Dungeness crab. As we mentioned it is impossible for us to meet our customary and traditional needs now. This must be addressed and our ability must be met prior to new fisheries in districts #2 to open.

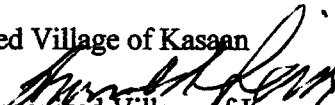
Until the Board of fish, the state agencies responsible for the fishing and the monitoring and assessing of this resource and assuring our ability to obtain our customary and traditional levels, a summer commercial Dungeness crab fishery can not be considered. Further more assessments must be made and possible adjustments to the already fall and winter commercial summer in districts #2 may have to be

implemented to enable that the Dungeness crab stocks of such health to bring back our ability to obtain our level of Dungeness crab. This may be the only way to repair our priority subsistence fishery.

We here by request proper consultation with the Board of fish and the various state agencies, shell fish management, subsistence and all other agencies responsible for seeing to it our subsistence needs are met. We would like this consultation to be conducted in Kasaan in a timely manner. A time agreeable to the Organized Village of Kasaan.

We would further like to say that we are mandated by our Tribal constitution and that we already demonstrated that we will go to all lengths to protect our citizens and to protect our right to our resources and to maintain our customary and traditional catch levels of any and all our customary foods.

Sincerely,

Richard Peterson
President, organized Village of Kasaan
Ronald Leighton 
Vice- President, Organized Village of Kasaan

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]

Submitted by ADF&G at the request of Vince Webster.
1/18/2012

Table 1. – GHLS, harvest (lbs), management accuracy, and CPUE by fishery area in the golden king crab fishery from the 2005/06 through 2010/11 seasons.

Fishery Area	Season	GHL	Harvest	% of GHL	CPUE
Mid-Chatham	2005/06	80,000	81,463	102	3.4
	2006/07	80,000	78,416	98	4.0
	2007/08	80,000	89,873	112	4.3
	2008/09	100,000	123,626	124	5.4
	2009/10	110,000	141,558	129	4.6
	2010/11	110,000	114,966	105	4.5
East Central	2005/06	225,000	249,330	111	3.1
	2006/07	225,000	243,675	108	4.1
	2007/08	225,000	251,004	112	5.3
	2008/09	225,000	303,811	135	6.8
	2009/10	260,000	308,013	118	5.1
	2010/11	260,000	305,659	118	5.0
North Stephens Passage	2005/06	20,000	16,366	82	1.8
	2006/07	20,000	19,450	97	1.9
	2007/08	20,000	27,441	137	2.8
	2008/09	20,000	22,770	114	1.8
	2009/10	20,000	20,568	103	1.7
	2010/11	20,000	20,714	104	1.0
Northern	2005/06	120,000	142,455	119	2.0
	2006/07	120,000	152,145	127	4.4
	2007/08	120,000	184,227	154	4.0
	2008/09	145,000	156,261	108	3.5
	2009/10	145,000	176,782	122	2.9
	2010/11	145,000	161,522	111	3.1

- Continued -

Table 1. continued.

Icy Strait	2005/06	55,000	61,290	111	1.9
	2006/07	55,000	71,058	129	2.8
	2007/08	55,000	58,453	106	2.4
	2008/09	55,000	51,026	93	2.1
	2009/10	45,000	42,136	94	2.1
	2010/11	45,000	44,882	100	2.0
Lower Chatham	2005/06	15,000	*	*	*
	2006/07	15,000	7,736	52	3.1
	2007/08	15,000	*	*	*
	2008/09	25,000	20,004	80	4.9
	2009/10	25,000	22,328	89	3.3
	2010/11	25,000	17,786	71	2.6
Southern	2005/06	10,000	*	*	*
	2006/07	10,000	*	*	*
	2007/08	10,000	*	*	*
	2008/09	20,000	*	*	*
	2009/10	20,000	20,742	104	4.3
	2010/11	20,000	21,976	110	3.0

* Fewer than 3 permits were fished; information is confidential.

Petersburg Vessel Owners Association

PO Box 232
 Petersburg, AK 99833
 Phone & Fax: 907.772.9323
 pvoa@gci.net • www.pvoaonline.org

Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance

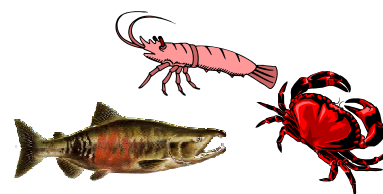
9369 North Douglas Highway

Juneau, AK 99801

Phone 907-586-6652

Fax 907-523-1168

Website: <http://www.seafa.org>



E-mail: seafa@gci.net

January 18, 2012

RE: SOUTHEAST BOARD OF FISH SHELLFISH RC, PROPOSAL #158 KING AND TANNER CRAB WEATHER DELAY LANGUAGE

Dear Chairman Johnstone,

Proposal #158, add additional Language that defines how weather delays may impact Tanner and king crab fishing.

Although the Department generated proposal helps establish language to ensure adequate weather considerations are written in regulation, participants in the king and Tanner fishery would prefer language that references freezing spray. The king and Tanner crab fleet and the King and Tanner Task Force (RC 13) as well as Board of Fish shellfish committee A (RC 30) have reached general consensus that gale force winds alone are not as significant of a safety issue as gale force winds combined with freezing spray. Freezing spray creates hazardous conditions for a feet operating in the winter months. Members of the industry have expressed interest in adopting language below:

Department proposal:

5 AAC 35.110 Fishing Seasons for Registration Area A.

(a) Male Tanner crab may be taken only from 12:00 noon on the date with the smallest Juneau tidal range between February 10 and February 17, as announced by emergency order, through May 1.

(b) Season openings may be delayed if the National Weather Service forecast for the major fishing areas in the Southeast Region contains gale force wind warnings (35 knots and higher) OR FREEZING SPRAY on the 4:00 a.m. forecast for the day preceding the start date and the following day, in which case the season opening in all sections of Registration Area A eligible for a season opening will be delayed 24 hours and announcement of this delay will be issued 24 hours prior to the

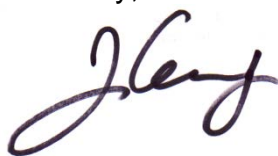
start of the fishery; if after the initial delay gale warnings continue regionwide, the season opening in all eligible sections may be delayed an additional 24 hours; season opening delays may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis; for the purposes of this paragraph, the corresponding National Weather Service forecast areas considered within the Southeast Region are as follows:

- (1) Southern Lynn Canal;**
- (2) Northern Chatham Strait;**
- (3) Stephens Passage;**
- (4) Frederick Sound.**

This Department generated proposal would be consistent with regulations in other fisheries throughout the state and sets in regulation an effective and necessary protocol for the Department to follow in the case of extreme weather similar to other fisheries throughout the state.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If we can provide further information or answer any questions as you make this important decision, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Julianne Curry
Director, PVOA

Sincerely,



Kathy Hansen
Director, SEAFA