

## Alaska Department of Fish and Game Board of Fisheries

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### ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES STATEWIDE DUNGENESS CRAB, SHRIMP, MISCELLANEOUS SHELLFISH AND OTHER ISSUES MARCH 17-20, 2015

**Sheraton Hotel, Anchorage** 

## TENTATIVE COMMITTEE ROADMAP (47 proposals)

# **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 1 (11 proposals)** (Chair–Jensen)

#### Kodiak, Chignik, Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Shellfish (5 proposals)

- Establish weather criteria to delay opening of commercial fishing periods for sea cucumbers in the Kodiak District of Registration Area J.
- 235 Modify the Chignik District fishing season for sea cucumbers to open two weeks earlier than the remainder of Registration Area J.
- Establish an earlier season closure for the Kodiak, Chignik, Alaska Peninsula, and Aleutian districts' commercial Dungeness crab fisheries.
- Amend the customary and traditional (C&T) use finding for shellfish in the Kodiak Area by adding Tanner crab to the list of shellfish stocks customarily or traditionally taken for subsistence.
- Amend scallop closed waters description in Registration Area J.

#### **Statewide Dungeness Crab (1 proposal)**

Remove Registration Area A from the 72-hour Dungeness crab pot storage limitation requirement.

#### **Cook Inlet Razor Clams (5 proposals)**

- 240 Reduce the personal use limit for razor clams in East Cook Inlet.
- 241 Reduce the personal use limit for razor clams in East Cook Inlet.
- 242 Reduce the sport limit for razor clams in East Cook Inlet.
- 243 Close east Cook Inlet beaches to all razor clam harvest.
- 244 Establish personal use bag limit for razor clams in West Cook Inlet.

### 2015 Statewide Dungeness, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish and Other Issues Roadmap

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 2 (16 proposals) (Chair–Morisky)

#### **Prince William Sound Shrimp (16 proposals)**

#### Noncommercial (5 proposals)

- 245 Modify the Prince William Sound non-commercial shrimp fishery management plan.
- 246 Modify the Prince William Sound non-commercial shrimp fishery management plan.
- Increase the maximum shrimp pot per vessel limit from 5 to 10.
- 248 Modify reporting requirements for sport and personal use shrimp fishing.
- 249 Create a subsistence permit for shrimp in the Prince William Sound management area.

#### Commercial (11 proposals)

- 250 Clarify that a person may only register one vessel each season for the Registration Area E shrimp pot fishery.
- 251 Amend the boundary between shrimp pot fishing areas in Registration Area E.
- Add additional waters closed to the taking of shrimp with trawl gear and correct coordinates within the closed waters section.
- 253 Change Registration Area E shrimp pot commercial fishery from non-exclusive to superexclusive. Change the season dates from April 15–September 15 to April 15–August 1, reducing season length.
- Increase the current 25% statistical area harvest restriction to 50% of the total commercial guideline harvest level (GHL).
- 255 Create a maximum longline length of 300 feet for use during the Prince William Sound shrimp pot fishery. Change the buoy requirement for commercial shrimp pots deployed on a longline in Registration Area E.
- 256 Change buoy requirements for commercial shrimp pots deployed on a longline in Registration Area E.
- 257 Amend the reporting requirements for the shrimp pot fishery in Registration Area E.
- 258 Close the commercial shrimp pot fishery in Prince William Sound.
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- 260 Close the commercial shrimp pot fishery in Prince William Sound.

# **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 3 (12 proposals)** (Chair–Huntington)

#### **Agenda Change Request and Board Generated Proposals (12 proposals)**

- Reduce the size of exploitable legal male Tanner crab, from 5.5 to 5.0 inches carapace width, for calculating total allowable catch in waters east of 166° W long. in the Bering Sea District.
- Amend the Norton Sound Section red king crab harvest strategy to develop a guideline harvest level for the winter and summer commercial seasons.

#### **Alaska Board of Fisheries**



### 2015 Statewide Dungeness, Shrimp, Misc. Shellfish and Other Issues Roadmap

- 270 Change the duration of the Norton Sound winter through-the-ice commercial king crab fishery.
- 271 Require four-inch mesh subsistence gillnets to be operated only as set gillnets in the Kuskokwim River during times of king salmon conservation.
- 272 Provide the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game emergency order authority to restrict gillnet length and other allowable gear during times necessary to conserve king salmon in the Kuskokwim River drainage.
- Allow subsistence fishermen to operate fish wheels without a livebox during times necessary for king salmon conservation in the Kuskokwim drainage.
- Allow drift gillnet subsistence fishing after July 15 in the upper section of Yukon River Subdistrict 4-A for the harvest of summer chum salmon.
- Allow subsistence fish wheel fishermen in the Yukon Area to retain king salmon when some harvest is justified based upon inseason run assessment.
- 275 Change the Naknek-Kvichak District boundary line at Graveyard Point as follows: 5 AAC 06.350(b)(1) would be amended to establish coordinates that correspond to the historical location of the upper Graveyard Point marker and factor in the significant shoreline erosion that is occurring.
- Board generated proposal to consider optimum escapement goals for Bristol Bay sockeye salmon.
- 276 Redefine the method used to determine maximum overall length of salmon purse seine vessels.
- 202 Clarify measurement standards for the commercial salmon purse seine vessel length limit in the Southeastern Alaska Area.

# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 4 (8 proposals / 3 for review) (Chair–Jeffrey)

#### Proposal 44 from 2013–2014 Meeting Cycle (1 proposal)

44 Create state-waters walleye pollock management plans for Cook Inlet, Kodiak, and Chignik management areas.

#### **Amphibians (2 proposals)**

- Modify regulatory language to specifically include the importation and release of amphibians in Alaska.
- Modify regulatory language to specifically allow include the collection, transport, and possession of amphibians in Alaska.

# Proposals Submitted Out of Cycle (5 proposals) – NOTE: These proposals will be handled by the board following ethics discussion on Day 1.

- Reduce the length of drift gillnet gear.
- 264 Modify length of drift and set gillnets based on preseason sockeye salmon forecast.
- Ban the use of live earthworms as bait in freshwater sport fishing.
- 266 Modify procedure for assigning observer coverage in king and Tanner crab fisheries.
- Repeal exception for use of footgear with felt soles while sport fishing in fresh water.