
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL RED KING CRAB FISHERY LANDING REQUIREMENT, REGISTRATION, AND POT STORAGE REMINDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Petersburg. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) would like to remind commercial red king crab permit holders that all harvested crab must be landed within 24 hours after the registration area closes to fishing at 12:00 noon on November 2, 2017, in accordance with regulation 5 AAC 34.031 (e). The department may provide extended holding in certain circumstances, but would not offer extended holding past November 5 in order to accurately account for crab harvested during the initial opening and to allow survey area crab to be sampled by port sampling staff prior to the fishery reopening in non-surveyed areas on November 6.

In addition, a king crab registration remains valid throughout the registration year unless the permit holder, or an agent of the permit holder, unregisters the vessel from the fishery [5 AAC 34.109(c)]. Pots may not be stored in waters deeper than 10 fathoms at mean low tide after 12:00 noon on November 2, 2017, and must have all bait and bait containers removed and doors secured fully open. Buoys must be attached to stored pots and must be marked as specified in 5 AAC 34.051, except that a stack of stored king crab pots may be marked with a single buoy (5 AAC 34.127 (3)).

5 AAC 34.031. Landing requirements.

(e) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, after 24 hours following the closure of any registration area for specified species of king crab, a king crab vessel registered for that area may not have that species of king crab on board in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the state unless

- (1) the vessel is otherwise in compliance with 5 AAC 34.020 and 5 AAC 34.030;
- (2) except in Registration Areas O, T, and Q, the vessel owner, or the owner's agent, has contacted, in person or by radio or telephone, a local representative of the department at a landing port or inspection point specified in this chapter or by the department, and the representative has authorized the extended possession of king crab; contact with the representative must be made within the 24-hour period following the season closure for that species of king crab in the registration area;
- (3) the vessel owner, or the owner's agent, who catches and processes king crab has complied with the pot storage requirements in 5 AAC 34.052(a) (1), the landing requirements specified in this subsection or for a specific registration area otherwise specified in this chapter, and has contacted a local representative of the department within the times specified in this subsection or for a specific registration area otherwise specified in this chapter, and the representative has authorized extended possession of king crab for purposes of processing or transportation;

5 AAC 34.109. Area A registration.

(c) In Registration Area A, a king crab registration remains valid throughout the registration year unless it is invalidated under (b) of this section or another provision of this chapter.

5 AAC 34.127. King crab pot storage requirements for Registration Area A

Notwithstanding 5 AAC 34.052, king crab pots with all bait and bait containers removed and all doors secured fully open may be stored in the water only

(3) during the 10 days before the scheduled opening of the commercial king and Tanner crab seasons in Registration Area A, only under the following conditions:

(A) a pot may not be stored in waters deeper than 10 fathoms at mean low tide; and

(B) buoys must be attached to stored pots and must be marked as specified in 5 AAC 34.051, except that a stack of stored king crab pots may be marked with a single buoy.

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