



2011 South Peninsula District Tanner Crab Fishery Information.



General

- ◆ The fishery will open at 12:00 noon on Saturday, January 15, 2011.
- ◆ Only legal-size (5.5 inches carapace width (CW)) male Tanner crabs can be retained.
- ◆ Only vessels 58 feet overall length or less may participate in the South Peninsula District Tanner fishery.
- ◆ South Peninsula District **Western Section guideline harvest level (GHL) = 1,400,000 pounds.** The Western Section includes all waters west of 162° W. long. The **Eastern Section guideline harvest level = 900,000 pounds.** The Eastern Section includes all waters east of 162° W. long.
- ◆ Vessels **may not register for the Eastern and Western sections simultaneously** although vessels may switch between sections during the season by contacting ADF&G.
- ◆ Pot limits for 2011 fishery will be **75** pots based on total district GHL. Buoy tags are required and will be available in the Kodiak ADF&G office beginning December 14. Tags will also be available in Sand Point and King Cove around January 10. Tags are available at no cost. Participants must hold a valid 2011 South Peninsula Tanner crab permit card to obtain buoy tags (T09M).
- ◆ Gear may only be operated daily from **08:00 AM to 5:59 PM (10 hours)**. From 6:00 PM to 07:59 AM gear cannot be set or retrieved, however it can be left in the water to soak.
- ◆ The fishery will be managed inseason from volunteer catch reporting by the fleet. ADF&G will take reports daily by telephone, FAX, e-mail, and dispatch. The ADF&G Matrix dispatch number is **7894**.
- ◆ Closure announcements may occur with **little** advance notice; inshore and offshore waters of the section will be managed separately based on the 2010 trawl survey results.

Storage/Gear operation

- ◆ Pots may be stored in waters shallower than 25 fathoms with all bait and bait containers removed and doors secured open (or not secured closed for cone or pyramid pots) before the commercial fishery opens and 7 days after the closure of the commercial fishery. Registered vessels may not have more than an aggregate of 75 pots in the South Peninsula District either onboard the vessel, fishing, or in wet storage (this includes stored groundfish pots).
- ◆ **Important!** No person may operate commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots during the 14 days immediately before the opening of the commercial Tanner crab fishery in the South Peninsula District. Placing tagged gear into shallow water storage is permitted during this 14-day stand down period; *however*, vessels may not retrieve gear to place buoy tags on gear during this 14-day period.
- ◆ Tank inspection will be required for wet-tanked vessels and will begin at 12:00 noon on January 14, 2011 in Sand Point and King Cove.
- ◆ All pot gear onboard and in wet storage must be tagged at the time of tank inspection.
- ◆ Gear **may not** be retrieved from wet storage during the 24-hour period after tank inspection but before the fishery opening. **Important!** Gear may only be retrieved from wet storage **AFTER** the fishery has opened.

Gear information

- ◆ At least one buoy attached to each pot must be clearly marked with the same five digit number that appears on the permanent ADF&G vessel plate (including leading zeros as needed). No additional number(s) may appear on the buoy that contains the vessel ADF&G number (symbols and letters are permitted).
- ◆ Tanner crab pots with tunnel eye openings on the vertical plane of the pot may not have tunnel eye openings greater than five inches (13 cm) in height.
- ◆ All gear must contain the following escape mechanisms:
 - 1/3 of one vertical surface must be composed of not less than 7 ¼ inch stretched mesh webbing **or** have no less than four circular escape rings of no less than five inches inside diameter. Rings must be installed on the vertical plane of the pot.
 - Pots must contain a biodegradable escape mechanism that is a minimum of 18-inches in length, within six inches of the bottom of the pot, and must be laced, sewn, or secured together by a single length of untreated, 100% cotton twine no larger than 30 thread count.