

Summary of Actions
Alaska Board of Fisheries

**Bering Sea (Registration Area Q) King Crab Fishery
and Prince William Sound/Copper River Salmon Management Plans
May 3, 2006
Teleconference**

This summary of actions is for information purposes only and is not intended to detail, reflect or fully interpret the reasons for the Board's actions.

PROPOSAL NO. 428

ACTION: Carried

DESCRIPTION: Amend description of Registration Area Q districts by dividing the Norton Sound Section (Q3) and the St. Lawrence Inland Section (Q4) into two new sections at 66° North Latitude.

DISCUSSION: This proposal was deferred from the March, 2005 Board of Fisheries meeting to allow consultation with the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. The department noted that this would change the opening dates in the different sections. The board considered impacts to the subsistence crab fishery and noted that ice conditions are the largest determinant of subsistence harvests. It noted that the superexclusive registration aspect of the Norton Sound king crab fishery would not change. The board concluded that this would provide additional economic opportunity in the fishery.

Petition

The board considered an emergency petition from Cordova District Fishermen United Gillnet Division regarding the Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Plan and the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan. The petition asked that revisions to the plans adopted in December 2005 not be implemented. The board reviewed the criteria for taking emergency action (5 AAC 96.625) and heard the department recommendation that the criteria had not been met. The board noted that it had given each of the plans thorough consideration, that it had received significant public input, and that no new information was presented beyond what was available in December 2005 when the revisions were adopted. The board concluded that no finding of emergency was satisfied by the petition.

Miscellaneous Business

The board adopted findings on the Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Plan (# 2006-248-FB); and on the Copper River King Salmon Management Plan (# 2006-249-FB). These findings provide an explanation of the basis for the board's action on these two management plans.