

Submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at the request of Board member Payton

March 24, 2017

Substitute language for proposal 268:

**5 AAC 35.3XX. Prince William Sound Tanner Crab Harvest Strategy.**

(b)(5) the commercial fishery opens under 5 AAC XXX, the sport fishery will open as provided in 5 AAC 55.022(b)(3).

**5 AAC 55.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the Prince William Sound Area.**

(b)(3) Tanner crab; as provided in 5 AAC 35.3XX(b)(5) Tanner crab may be taken from October 1 – March 31; only male Tanner crab five inches or greater in width of shell may be taken or possessed; the bag and possession limit is twelve male Tanner crab;

**5 AAC 55.0XX. Methods, means, and general provisions – Shellfish.** (a) Unless otherwise specified in 5 AAC 55.022 or by an emergency order issued under AS 16.05.060, the provisions of this section apply to shellfish sport fishing in the Prince William Sound Area.

(b) Tanner crab may only be taken with pots under the authority of a noncommercial permit issued by the department;

(c) No more than two pots per person with no more than two pots per vessel may be used to take Tanner crab;

(d) Each pot used to take Tanner crab must have no less than two escape rings of no less than four and three-eighths inch inside diameter;

(e) A pot used to take shellfish may not have any portion of the line attaching the pot to a buoy floating on the surface of the water at any time, except that portion of the line connecting the main buoy to any auxiliary buoy or buoys.

(f) Tanner crab may not be taken in those areas described in 5 AAC 02.236.