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ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

**STATEWIDE KING AND TANNER CRAB
AND SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES**

**March 20–24, 2017
Coast International Inn, Anchorage**

TENTATIVE COMMITTEE ROADMAP

(36 proposals)

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 1: BERING SEA KING AND TANNER
CRAB, ALEUTIAN ISLANDS KING AND TANNER CRAB (15 proposals – Chair
Ruffner)**

Bering Sea King and Tanner Crab (12 Proposals)

- 250 Allow full retention of legal male *C. opilio* crab incidentally harvested by vessels targeting *C. bairdi* crab in the Bering Sea District west of 166° W. long.
- 251 Change season closure date from March 31 to April 15 for *C. bairdi* Tanner crab in waters west of 166° W longitude.
- 252 Allow a vessel carrying an onboard observer to rig, bait, and set gear for a new crab fishery before fully exiting the crab fishery for which the observer was briefed.
- 253 Allow a vessel participating in a rationalized crab fishery to rig, bait, and set pot gear for a new crab fishery prior to fully exiting the crab fishery for which the vessel is validly registered.
- 254 Amend the description of a hybrid Tanner crab so that hybrid designation is dependent upon the target Tanner crab fishery for which the vessel is validly registered.
- 255 All full retention of incidentally taken legal male *C. opilio* Tanner crab when a vessel is participating in the *C. bairdi* Tanner crab fishery east of 166° W. longitude.
- 256 Allow full retention of legal male *C. bairdi* Tanner crab incidentally harvested by vessels targeting Bristol Bay red king crab.
- 257 Extend the Bering Sea District eastern boundary for retention of *C. opilio* crab from 166° W. longitude to 165° W. longitude.



- 258 Extend the Bering Sea District eastern boundary for retention of *C. bairdi* crab from 163° W. longitude to 162° W. longitude.
- 259 Specify that escape rings and mesh are placed on a vertical plane or side of the pot in the Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab fishery.
- 260 Adopt by reference the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Chionoecetes Crab Quick Reference Guide for *C. bairdi* and *C. opilio* Tanner crab.
- 261 Allow *C. opilio* Tanner crab bycatch retention up to five percent in the Bering Sea District *C. bairdi* Tanner crab fishery, east of 166° W. longitude.

Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab (3 Proposals)

- 262 Develop a management plan for the Western Aleutian District Tanner crab fishery.
- 263 Reduce onboard observer coverage rates and change observer deployment periods for the Aleutian Islands golden king crab fishery.
- 264 Repeal provisions allowing concurrent harvest of red and golden king crab in Registration Area O.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 2: COOK INLET TANNER CRAB, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND TANNER CRAB (9 proposals – Chair Jeffrey)

Cook Inlet Tanner Crab (2 Proposals)

- 265 Amend the noncommercial harvest strategy for Tanner crab in the Cook Inlet Area to allow limited fishing opportunity in the absence of abundance estimates.
- 266 Allow a personal use fishery for Tanner Crab in Lower Cook Inlet with a bag limit of two crabs per person per day, pot limit of two pots per person and unspecified size restrictions on pots and season limits.

Prince William Sound King and Tanner Crab (7 Proposals)

- 267 Create a harvest strategy and amend regulations for Tanner crab in Prince William Sound specifying conditions under which the commercial fishery may occur and reduce the legal size limit in the subsistence Tanner crab fishery.
- 268 Create a harvest strategy and amend regulations for Tanner crab in Prince William Sound specifying conditions under which the commercial fishery may occur and establish a sport fishery for Tanner crab in Prince William Sound.
- 269 Allow a commercial Tanner crab fishery in the Western District of Prince William Sound.
- 270 Allow a commercial Tanner crab fishery in the Eastern District of Prince William Sound.
- 271 Allow the department to issue commissioner permits for king and Tanner crab fisheries in Prince William Sound that have been closed for more than four years.
- 272 Reduce the legal male size limit in the Prince William Sound Subsistence Tanner crab fishery to five and three tenths inches or greater carapace width.



- 273 Increase the Prince William Sound subsistence Tanner crab daily bag and possession limit to 25 male Tanner crab.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – GROUP 3: REGULATORY ALIGNMENT, ARCTIC -YUKON-KUSKOKWIM, KODIAK AND SOUTH PENINSULA TANNER CRAB, CHIGNIK PACIFIC COD, KUSKOKWIM AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON (12 proposals – Chair Jensen)

Regulatory Alignment (3 Proposals)

- 242 Correct an error in regulation to accurately specify the percentage of mature male blue king crab used in setting total allowable catch.
- 243 Reduce the sport fishery minimum legal size limit for Tanner crab in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Island Area from 5.5 inches carapace width to 4.8 inches carapace width.
- 244 Align sport crab fishery regulations and repeal methods and means and general provisions for shellfish for the North Slope, Kuskokwim–Goodnews, and Yukon areas.

Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (2 Proposals)

- 245 Extend the closure line north for the Norton Sound Section commercial king crab fishery from 64° 10' N. latitude to 64° 15' N. latitude.
- 246 Add a definition for crab rakes and allow crab rakes as lawful subsistence shellfish gear north of Cape Newenham.

Kodiak and South Peninsula Tanner Crab (3 Proposals)

- 247 Repeal regulations that prohibit sport fishing for king or Tanner crab in the Kodiak Area 14 days before and after a commercial king or Tanner crab fishery.
- 248 Repeal regulations that prohibit sport fishing for king or Tanner crab in the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands Area 14 days before and after a commercial king or Tanner crab fishery.
- 249 Establish 20 pot gear limit for vessels participating in the South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab fishery and cap the total number of pots allowed in the fishery at 1000 pots.

Chignik Pacific Cod (1 Proposal)

- 274 Reduce waters closed for the protection of Steller sea lions during the parallel Pacific cod fishery in the Chignik Area.

Kuskokwim and Aleutian Islands Area Subsistence Salmon (3 Proposals)

- 275 Create a Tier II subsistence king salmon fishery in the Kuskokwim River.
- 276 Establish a permit system for regulating the king salmon subsistence fishery during times of low king salmon runs.
- 280 Decrease number of sockeye salmon that may be retained in the subsistence salmon fishery on Front Beach in the Unalaska Bay District.