

Dear Chairman Vandort and Board Members,

KCAC (Kodiak Crab Alliance Cooperative) represents 95% of the permit holders who fished in this years fishery. We would like to make a few comments on four items.

268 - (WE SUPPORT) ADF&G's new management plans. We feel this will have a positive effect and provide more opportunity to fish in the future.

270 - (WE SUPPORT) a 20 pot limit in perpetuity, we recognize that that is not what the the proposal States but would like to point out how effective 20 pot have been and we see no need to expand beyond this limit. This is fleet is largely made up of lees than 60 ft. boats and more pots might prove a safety concern. We also realize that there is an over 60 ft. component, we would like to point out that 20 pots does not disadvantage these permit holders in anyway. Larger boats can fish rougher weather and fish larger pots which gives them an advantage in some situations. 20 pots is a valuable limit which provides safety and the ability for managers to do an incredible job of fine tuning the fleet to maximize harvest without over harvesting.

A final Note this year we had 82 boats fishing and we harvested almost 1.2 million pounds with 20 pots in a 7 day period. If the quota goes up so will the boat count, only 50% of permit holder participated. This fishery generated almost 10 million ex vessel revenues. In the community of Kodiak the average dollar gets passed around 5-7 times before leaving our community. This is a huge impact to our economy and we DO NOT need to build more efficiencies into this fishery at this time.

271- (WE SUPPORT) this proposal

Finally it has come to our attention that some would like to change the start date of this fishery. (DO NOT SUPPORT) This has been a robust topic with our Board and Members. We do not support any change to the start date. We looked at changing from Dec.-Feb ourselves and we always came up with more problems than what we were trying to solve. We looked at optimizing market conditions for the holidays, Weather, Other fisheries timing , it was decided as a group that the timing was right and should be left alone. Generally Dec. is a month when canneries get ready for the yr to come and crews fly home. Jan. fishermen must choose to fish cod or crab. Finally talking about weather and its impacts on the crab we are fishing and boats safety, our members said that the weather between November-February is so unpredictable it really made no difference. We have a fair start built into the fishery that spells out the weather. Fishery dose not open with a Gail in the Eastside forecast.

Sincerely,

President Luke Lester

Brian Horn

Kavik Anderson

Pete Longrich

Alexus Kwachka