

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

Resolution 80-67-FB

*also see  
#76-18-FB*

Regarding Tanner Crab in the Bering Sea

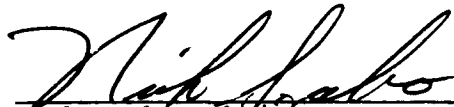
WHEREAS, the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council held a joint meeting on December 13, 1979, and discussed the Bering Sea tanner crab fishery; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Fisheries has adopted regulations to close the Bering Sea tanner crab fishery on August 15, 1980, because

- (a) all indications show that industry will take the allowable harvest well before August 15,
- (b) the overwhelming weight of public testimony presented to the Board was concerned with an equitable start of the king crab season. In order to achieve an equitable start of the king crab season, it is necessary to require removal of all gear from the fishing grounds prior to the start of the king crab season,
- (c) a workable enforcement strategy is needed which alleviates the burden of pulling each pot to determine if it is fishing prior to the beginning of the season,
- (d) it is biologically sound to prevent the fleet from fishing early and stockpiling crab. Stockpiling reduces the viability of the crab and increases wasteful deadloss,
- (e) the vast majority of the tanner crab gear is removed from the fishing grounds by the fishermen in order to lessen gear loss.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Board of Fisheries requests the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to exercise his Emergency Order authority granted under Alaska Statute 16.05.060 to extend the C. opilio season beyond August 15, 1980, if by that date the domestic harvest has not yet achieved a harvest level consistent with sound biological management principles and such an extension is determined to be in the broad public interest.

ADOPTED: January 11, 1980  
Anchorage, Alaska

  
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Nick Szabo, Chairman  
Alaska Board of Fisheries

VOTE: 6/0