

# SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

## NORTH SLOPE, NORTHWESTERN, & KUSKOKWIM-GOODNEWS AREAS

### SHELLFISH MAY BE TAKEN AS FOLLOWS

1. **Shrimp** may have been taken with pots or ring nets.
2. **Crab** may only be taken with pots, ring nets, diving gear, dip nets, hooked or hookless lines either operated by hand or attached to a pole, or by hand.
3. **Clams** may only be taken with rakes, shovels, manually operated clam guns, or by hand.
4. No more than 5 pots per person, and a maximum of 10 pots per vessel, regardless of type, may be used to take shellfish at any time.
5. All sport anglers must clearly write their first initial, last name, and address on a keg or buoy attached to each pot, along with the vessel's name or DMV registration number. Adding a phone number is recommended.
6. Each pot must have an escape mechanism as outlined in 5 AAC 39.145.
7. Shellfish bag and possession limits are not additional to those allowed under subsistence or personal use fishing regulations.
8. Crabs may not be mutilated in a way that prevents determining legal size until processed for human consumption. No person may take or possess shellfish smaller than the legal size.
9. In the waters south of 60°N. Latitude, **male king crab** may be taken only from June 1 through January 1.

**NOTE:** A person must obtain a harvest record form from the ADF&G Nome office prior to fishing for king crab in the Norton Sound section of the Northern District.



Golden king crab and red king crab.

### DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS

#### **RED KING CRAB - Males Only:**

- **Northwestern and Kuskokwim-Goodnews Areas Only:** 6 per day, 6 in possession, 4¾ inches or more.

#### **BLUE KING CRAB - Males Only:**

- **Northwestern and Kuskokwim-Goodnews Areas Only:** 6 per day, 6 in possession, 5½ inches or more, and 5 inches or more in the Northwestern area.

#### **DUNGENESS CRAB - Males Only:**

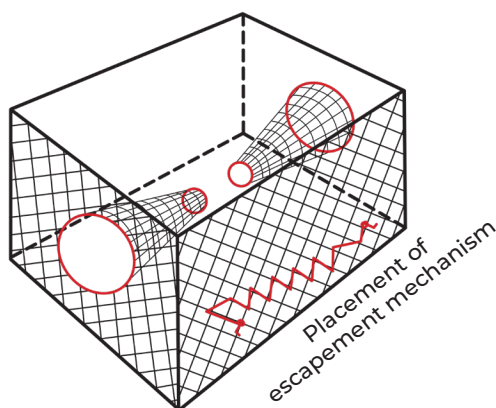
- **North Slope and Northwestern Areas Only:** 12 per day, 12 in possession, 6½ inches or more.

#### **TANNER CRAB - Males Only:**

- **Northwestern Area Only:** 12 per day, 12 in possession, in combination.
  - *C. Bairdi*, 5½ inches or more.
  - *C. Opilio*, 3⅞ inches or more.

### SHELLFISH POT GEAR ESCAPE MECHANISMS

- Pot gear must include escape mechanisms to prevent resource waste if the pot is lost.
- The sidewall, including the tunnel, must have an opening at least 18 inches long (6 inches long for shrimp pots) and located within 6 inches of the pot's bottom and parallel to it.
- The opening must be secured with a single length of untreated, 100% cotton twine no thicker than 30-thread, laced or sewn together, with knots only at each end. The cotton twine may not be looped around or tied to the web bars.



The captain and crew members of a charter vessel may not deploy, set, or retrieve their own gear in a subsistence, sport, or personal use fishery while the vessel is being chartered.

An owner, operator, or employee of a lodge, charter vessel, or similar business that provides food, lodging, or sport fishing guide services may not provide clients or guests with subsistence, sport, or personal use-caught shellfish, unless the shellfish:

1. Was caught by the client or guest using gear they deployed and retrieved;
2. Was taken with gear marked with the client's or guest's name and address; and
3. Is for the personal consumption by the client or guest, or consumed in their presence.

# SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

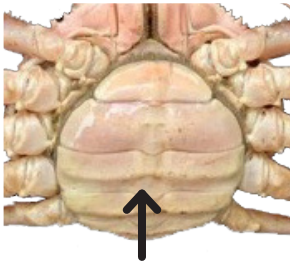
## CRAB ID AND MEASUREMENTS

### TANNER CRAB

*Chionoecetes bairdi* - minimum size 5½ inches / *Chionoecetes opilio* - minimum size 3⅞ inches

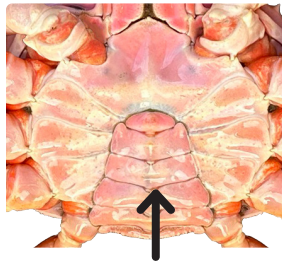
#### FEMALE

**NO HARVEST ALLOWED**

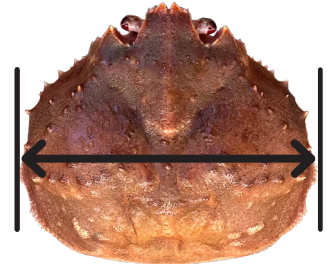


A wide uneven abdominal flap covers most of the underside, with females typically smaller than 5½ inches

#### MALE



A narrow triangular abdominal flap covers the underside



See above for inches

The width of a Tanner crab is measured as the straight-line distance across the carapace, **including** the spines

### DUNGENESS CRAB

Minimum size 6½ inches

#### FEMALE

**NO HARVEST ALLOWED**



A wide uneven abdominal flap covers most of the underside

#### MALE



A narrow triangular abdominal flap covers the underside



+6.5 inches

The width of a Dungeness crab is measured as the straight-line distance across the carapace, **excluding** the spines

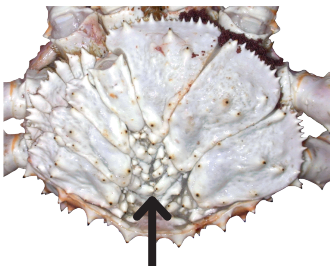
### KING CRAB

Red King - minimum size 4¾ inches

Blue King - minimum size 5½ inches; 5 inches in Northwestern Area

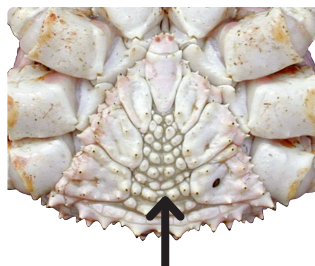
#### FEMALE

**NO HARVEST ALLOWED**



A wide uneven abdominal flap covers most of the underside

#### MALE



A narrow triangular abdominal flap covers the underside

6 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



**RED KING CRAB**

Min. size 4¾ inches

4 prominent spines on mid-dorsal plate



**BLUE KING CRAB**

Min. size 5½ inches; 5 inches in Northwestern Area