

PROPOSAL 273

5 AAC 34.910. Fishing seasons for Registration Area Q.

Amend the season dates for king crab in the Northern District Norton Sound Section, as follows:

(d)(2) through the ice only, during a fishing season established by emergency order to open on or after February 1 and close April 30, unless extended by emergency order (winter season).

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Pot Loss in the winter is excessive. With warming winter temperatures shore-fast ice is less stable than in prior years. These dates would eliminate the portion of the season when ice is prone to move.

Handling mortality of females and undersized crab would be reduced by handling crab late in the season when temperatures are less extreme.

PROPOSED BY: Northern Norton Sound Advisory Committee

(EF-F19-011)
