

PROPOSAL 65

5 AAC 34.2XX. New section.

Establish a department-issued permit for the commercial golden king crab fishery in Registration Area E, as follows:

We propose establishing guidance for the issuance of a commissioner’s permit for golden king crab in regulation. Create new regulation for golden king crab in area E to read as follows:

5 AAC 34.2XX Commissioner’s Permits for Golden King Crab

(a) In Prince William Sound, male golden king crab, seven inches or greater in carapace width, may be taken only under the conditions of a permit issued by the commissioner.

(b) Only pot gear may be used and no more than 15 king crab pots may be operated from a vessel.

(c) The permit required in this section

(1) may specify season dates;

(2) may specify areas of fishing operations by district or by geographic location;

(3) may require an onboard observer during all operations;

(4) shall require mandatory completion of log sheets provided by the department; log sheets described in this section must

(A) include the date, the specific location of harvest by latitude and longitude, the number of pots fished, the average depth of each pot fished, and the time gear is deployed and removed from the water of each set;

(B) include for the target and each bycatch species the number of fish retained and discarded;

(C) be updated within 24 hours after midnight local time on the day of operation;

(D) be made available to a local representative of the department upon request;

(E) be submitted with the corresponding fish ticket at the time of landing;

(5) may set other conditions the commissioner determines are necessary for conservation and management purposes.

(d) A person may not make a false entry in the log sheets described in this section.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? There is currently no regulatory guidance for issuing commissioner’s permits for golden king crab.

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United

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