

**PROPOSAL 272**

**5 AAC 35.509. Eastern Aleutian District Tanner crab harvest strategy.**

Adopt a new Eastern Aleutian District Tanner crab harvest strategy used to set annual harvest limits, as follows:

A detailed analysis and recommended harvest strategy scenarios will be provided by the department prior to the March 2021 Statewide All Shellfish meeting.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** The Eastern Aleutian District Tanner crab harvest strategy relies on annual ADF&G trawl survey abundance estimates to calculate harvest limits. The current harvest strategy was established in 2008 and requires minimum population abundance and management thresholds to be met before fisheries can occur.

This update will revise the regulatory trawl survey time series used to inform fishery openings, establish an abundance-based exploitation rate on Tanner crab, and evaluate the utility of minimum guideline harvest levels (GHLs). Due to funding uncertainty, this harvest strategy revision may also include fishery management options that could be used in the absence of annual trawl survey data.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F20-170)

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