At the Alaska Board of Fisheries’ (board) statewide Dungeness crab, shrimp, miscellaneous shellfish (except Southeast and Yakutat) and supplemental issues meeting in Anchorage from March 17–20, 2015, the board had before it Proposal 237, which asked the board to consider if there are customary and traditional (C&T) uses of Tanner crab in the Kodiak Area. After the proposal was submitted in April 2014, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (department) determined that, in addition to Tanner crab, no C&T review had been conducted for Dungeness crab, miscellaneous shellfish, or shrimp in the Kodiak Area.

The board examined the data before it, including a C&T worksheet and options for amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence (ANS), and found there are C&T uses of Tanner crab, Dungeness crab, miscellaneous shellfish, and shrimp in the Kodiak Area. In addition, the board further determined there are C&T uses of king crab in the area now excluded at 5 AAC 02.466(a)(1).

The board also made ANS findings for these stocks, with the exception of king crab.

However, due to lack of notice under the Administrative Procedures Act, the board was not authorized to adopt the C&T and ANS findings in regulation.

Therefore, the board makes the following findings:

(a) The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) finds that king crab, Tanner crab, Dungeness crab, shrimp, and miscellaneous shellfish are customarily and traditionally taken or used for subsistence in the Kodiak Area.

(b) The board finds that:

   (1) 3,200–8,100 Tanner crab are reasonably necessary for subsistence purposes in the Kodiak Area;
(2) 1,200–2,800 Dungeness crab are reasonably necessary for subsistence purposes in the Kodiak Area;

(3) 60,500–103,000 pounds of usable weight of miscellaneous shellfish are reasonably necessary for subsistence purposes in the Kodiak Area;

(4) 1,000–8,500 pounds of usable weight of shrimp are reasonably necessary for subsistence purposes in the Kodiak Area;

The board has previously found and adopted in regulation at 5 AAC 02.466 that:

(5) 22,000–68,000 pounds of usable weight of Dungeness crab and miscellaneous shellfish are reasonably necessary for subsistence purposes on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula between Kilokak Rocks (156° 19' W. long.) and Cape Kumlik (157° 27' W. long.) and in the area described at 5 AAC 02.500, combined.

At a future meeting, the board may adopt these new findings in regulation and address amounts of king crab reasonably necessary for subsistence purposes in the Kodiak Area.

Vote: 6-0
March 18, 2015
Anchorage, Alaska

Tom Kluberton, Chair
Alaska Board of Fisheries