

PROPOSAL 71

5 AAC 35.128. Operation of other gear in Registration Area A.

Allow operation of commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in the 14 days after closure of the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial Tanner crab fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 35.128(c) is added:

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 35.053(1), during the 14 days after the close of the commercial Tanner crab season in Registration Area A; a vessel or person that participated in a commercial Tanner crab fishery may operate commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in Tanner crab Registration Area A after putting Tanner crab pots in storage, as specified in 5 AAC 35.052, and, unless the registration is already invalidated under 5 AAC 35.020(k), after invalidating the vessel's Tanner crab registration by contacting, in person, a local representative of the department.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current commercial Dungeness crab and king crab regulations allow for operation of commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in the 14 days after commercial closures if gear is put in storage as specified in regulation and a local representative of the department invalidates the vessel's registration. Current Tanner crab regulations only allow the operation of other commercial pots (not subsistence, sport, or personal use pots) in the 14 days after the commercial closure if gear is put in storage as specified in regulation and a local representative of the department invalidates the vessel's registration. The change specified above would align the commercial Tanner crab fishery with commercial Dungeness crab and king crab fisheries to allow operation of commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in the 14 days after commercial closures if gear is put in storage as specified in regulation and a local representative of the department invalidates the vessel's registration.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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