

PROPOSAL 239

5 AAC 34.107 Description of golden king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A and 5 AAC 34.115 Guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A.

Divide the defined Northern Area of the golden king crab fishery in Registration Area A into two areas and split the current guideline harvest level between the two new areas, as follows:

5AAC 34.107 Description of golden king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A

(a) Upper Northern Area: All waters of Section 11-A, the waters of District 12 North of East Point at 57° 48.34' N., 134° 57.01' W. long to 57° 48.34' N lat., 134° 48.65' W long, and west of a line from 57° 48.34' N lat., 134° 48.65' W long and north of a line at 57° 55.70' N lat, 134° 49.54' W long and all waters of District 15.

(b) Lower Northern Area: Waters of Section 13-C and Section 13A in Peril Strait east of Point Kakul at 57° 21.83' N. lat., 135° 41.42' W. long., and waters of District 12 South of East Point at 57° 48.34' N., 134° 57.01' W. long to 57° 48.34' N lat., 134° 48.65' W long, and east of a line from 57° 48.34' N lat., 134° 48.65' W long and north of a line at 57° 55.70' N lat, 134° 49.54' W long

[a) NORTHERN AREA: ALL WATERS OF SECTION 11-A, SECTION 13-C, AND SECTION 13-A IN PERIL STRAIT EAST OF POINT KAKUL AT 57° 21.83' N. LAT., 135° 41.42' W. LONG., AND ALL WATERS OF DISTRICTS 12 AND 15.]

(c) [(b)] Icy Straits Area: all waters of District 14.

(d) [C] North Stephens Passage Area: all waters of Sections 11-B and 11-C.

(e) [D] East Central Area: all waters of Section 11-D, District 10, and District 9 east of a line from Kingsmill Point at 56° 50.00' N. lat., 134° 25.17' W. long. to Point Gardner at 57° 01.00' N. lat., 134° 37.00' W. long., all waters of District 8 north of the latitude of Blaquiere Point at 56° 35.00' N. lat., all waters of Section 6-A, and all waters of District 5 north of the latitude of Point Baker at 56° 21.53' N. lat.

(f) [E] Mid-Chatham Strait Area: all waters of District 9 north of the latitude of Point Ellis at 56° 33.67' N. lat. and west of a line from Kingsmill Point to Point Gardner.

(g) [(F)] Lower Chatham Strait Area: all waters of District 9 south of the latitude of Point Ellis at 56° 33.67' N. lat., and that portion of District 13-B south of the latitude of Redfish Cape at 56° 18.67' N. lat.

(h) [(G)] Southern Area: all waters of District 1 and District 2, all waters of District 6 south of a line from Point Colpoys at 56° 20.18' N. lat., 133° 11.90' W. long., to Macnamara Point at 56° 20.18' N. lat., 133° 03.54' W. long., and all waters of District 7 south of the latitude of Point Warde at 56° 10.43' N. lat.

And

5 AAC 34.115 Guideline Harvest ranges for Registration Area A

b) In Registration Area A, the guideline harvest ranges for the taking of golden king crab in the following areas are:

(1) Upper Northern Area: 0- 72,500 pounds;

(2) Lower Northern Area: 0-72,500 pounds;

[(1) NORTHERN AREA: 0-145,000 POUNDS;]

(3) [(2)] Icy Strait Area: 0- 55,000 pounds;

- (4)** [(3)] North Stephens Passage Area: 0-25,000 pounds;
- (5)** [(4)] East Central Area: 0-225,000 pounds;
- (6)** [(5)] Mid-Chatham Strait Area: 0-150,000 pounds;
- (7)** [(6)] Lower Chatham Strait Area: 0-50,000 pounds;
- (8)** [(7)] Southern Area: 0-25,000 pounds.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Split the golden king crab Northern Area into two fishing areas. An Upper Northern Area and a Lower Northern Area and divide the GHR between the two fishing areas. We have included the two regulation changes together in one proposal as they are linked such that you need both regulation changes to address this intertwined issue. The reason behind the request to split the area into two areas is it is an extremely large area. It appears to the fishermen fishing this area that the timing of the crab is different due to the extreme distance. When the Lower Northern Area is having very good catch per unit of effort at the beginning of the season, by the time the Upper Northern Area catches increase, and the GHL/length of the season is changed the timing for the Lower Northern Area peak catchability has decreased. The division of areas was based on maintaining intact sub-district area boundaries. The Upper Northern Area would encompass the District 12 subdistricts of 112-13; 112-14; 112-15; 112-16; 112-50; 112-61; 112-63; and 112-65. The Lower Northern Area would encompass the District 12 subdistricts of 112-11; 112-12; 112-17; 112-18; 112-19; 112-21; 112-22; 112-41; 112-42; 112-43; 112-44; 112-45; 112-46; 112-47; 112-48; 112-67; 112-71; 112-72; 112-73; 112-80 and 112-90.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Consulted with other fishermen and Southeast Alaska Fishermen's Alliance.

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