

PROPOSAL 250

5 AAC 02.115. Subsistence Dungeness crab fishery and 5 AAC 77.662. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery.

Reduce the minimum size limit for male Dungeness crab from six and one-half inches to six and one-quarter inches in the Registration A subsistence and personal use fisheries.

Reduce the minimum size limit for male Dungeness crab from 6 ½ inches to 6 ¼ inches in subsistence and personal use fisheries.

5 AAC 02.115. Subsistence Dungeness crab fishery.

In the subsistence taking of Dungeness crab,

(2) only male Dungeness crab is **six and one-quarter** [SIX AND ONE-HALF] inches or greater in shoulder width may be taken or possessed; male Dungeness crab less than the minimum legal size and female Dungeness crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed; for the purposes of this paragraph, the shoulder width measurement of Dungeness crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace immediately anterior to the tenth anterolateral spine, not including the spines;

5 AAC 77.662. Personal use Dungeness crab fishery.

In the personal use taking of Dungeness crab,

(3) the minimum legal size for male Dungeness crab is **six and one-quarter** [SIX AND ONE-HALF] inches in shoulder width; male Dungeness crab less than the minimum legal size and female Dungeness crab that have been taken must be immediately returned to the water unharmed; for the purposes of this paragraph, the shoulder width measurement of Dungeness crab is the straight-line distance across the carapace immediately anterior to the tenth anterolateral spine, not including the spines;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? In some areas, mature male crab 6 ½ inches or greater are in limited abundance from season to season or during certain times of the year. There are mature Dungeness crab less than legal size limit that available for harvest. Reducing the size limit for residents Alaska would help meet their needs and may alleviate the need for commercial closures. Along the Pacific coast, size limits for non-commercial harvest are less than for commercial harvest. A 6 ¼ inch Dungeness is still a mature male.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. No

PROPOSED BY: Derek Thynes

(EF-F24-151)
