

**PROPOSAL 254**

**5 AAC 32.128 Operation of other gear in Registration Area A.**

Allow a person or vessel to participate in the Registration Area A commercial Dungeness crab fishery if they operated commercial shrimp pots during the 14 days immediately before the opening of the commercial Dungeness crab fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 32.128. Operations of other gear in Registration Area A.

(a) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 32.053, person or vessel that operates commercial king crab pots in waters deeper than 100 fathoms, or commercial shrimp pots during the 14 days immediately before the opening of the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in Registration Area A, may participate in the commercial Dungeness crab fishery.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Intent to remove regulation that complicates fishing between crab and shrimp, due to season changes.

The current regulation is now outdated and there is no biological reason to prevent the operation of commercial shrimp pots before the Dungeness crab season.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.** Yes with other commercial Dungeness crab and shrimp fisherman. Due to season changes we have experienced financial distress because we are unable to properly conduct both fisheries.

**PROPOSED BY:** Chris McMurren

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