

PROPOSAL 257

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.

The solution is to include in **5 AAC 32.128**, language that will allow pot shrimpers to fish in the 14 days immediatly before the opening of the Dungeness crab fishery.

Please amend 5 AAC 32.128 to read;

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

(a) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 32.053, a person or vessel that operates commercial king crab pots in waters deeper than 100 fathoms, **or operates commercial shrimp pots**, durring the 14 days immediatly 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? The problem is, those who have both SE Dungeness crab and SE pot Shrimp permits are not allowed the oppertunity to fully utilize their permits. Currently, anyone who participates in both the pot shrimp and Dungeness crab fisheries is required to have all shrimp gear out of the water 14 days before the start of the Dungeness fishery.

The pot shrimp season opens May 15th and closes by regulation on July 31st. The more productive districts are closed before July 31 by emergency order from ADF&G as GHl's for each district are caught. Districts that have remaining GHl at the end of the summer seson may or may not re-open Oct. 1 by emergency order from ADF&G. The Dungeness season is open June 15 thru August 15, and opens again in the fall on Oct.1st. The current Regulations force those fishermen who have both permits to either give up an entire Dungeness season, (June 15-Aug.15) or give up 2 weeks of shrimp fishing in June.

There is no gear conflict between the two fisheries, as the definitions and regulations on gear are clear and unique to to each of the fisheries.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This proposal is my own. With the change of the commercial shrimp season by the BOF last cycle, from Oct 1 to May 15, I was forced to be done shrimp fishing by the 1st of June in order to participate in the Dungeness fishery. Some productive areas remained open into June but I chose to fish Dungeness and therefore was required to stop fishing shrimp.

PROPOSED BY: Tom Traibush

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