

PROPOSAL 38

5 AAC 35.XXX. New section. Tenders for Tanner Crab.

Allow vessels participating in the Prince William Sound Tanner crab fishery to also tender Tanner crab, as follows:

Create new regulatory language to allow boats to act as tenders while also participating in the fishery. That way at the end of the season, fishermen could put all of their catch on one boat to take to a processor. Regulation like this is currently in place for the Kodiak District Dungeness fishery.

New text as follows:

Notwithstanding 5 AAC 35.033, in the Prince William Sound Area, a vessel registered to fish for Tanner Crab may tender Tanner Crab from other registered Tanner Crab vessels. A tender operator must be an authorized agent of a processor. Before using a vessel as a tender under this section, the tender operator shall register as a tender with the department at the department office. A tender operator shall complete an ADF&G fish ticket at the first point of delivery from the catcher vessel.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Finding a market for a small-scale fishery such as Area E’s can be difficult and may require the crab be run far from the fishing grounds to Kodiak, Seward, or elsewhere. On a small quota year with a low price, it may not be economically viable for the few participants to hire a separate tender or for each participant to individually run a small load of crab across the Gulf of Alaska in the winter.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.

PROPOSED BY: Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU)

(EF-F24-125)
