

Nancy Dahlstrom
Lieutenant Governor
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
907.465.3520
WWW.LTGOV.ALASKA.GOV



530 West 7th Ave, Suite 1700
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
907.269.7460
LT.GOVERNOR@ALASKA.GOV

**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
ALASKA**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Shellene Hutter, Regulations Coordinator
Department of Fish and Game

FROM: April Simpson, Alaska Administrative Code Coordinator 
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

DATE: May 28, 2025

RE: Filed Permanent Regulations: Board of Fisheries

Board of Fisheries regulations re: Southeast area sport, subsistence, commercial,
personal use (5 AAC 01 - 77)

Attorney General File:	2025200151
Regulation Filed:	5/28/2025
Effective Date:	6/27/2025
Print:	254, July 2025

cc with enclosures: Beth Parsons, Paralegal 2
Department of Law

Bob Dame, Alaska Legal Analyst
LexisNexis



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Law

CIVIL DIVISION

P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, Alaska 99811
Main: 907.465.3600
Fax: 907.465.2520

May 27, 2025

The Honorable Nancy Dahlstrom
Lieutenant Governor
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110015
Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Re: *5 AAC 01 - 77: Board of Fisheries: Southeast area sport, subsistence,
commercial, personal use*
Our file: 2025200151

Dear Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom:

The Department of Law has reviewed the attached regulations of the Board of Fisheries against the statutory standards of the Administrative Procedure Act. Based upon our review, we find no legal problems. This letter constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to file the attached regulations. The regulations were adopted by the Board of Fisheries after the close of the public comment period.

The regulations concern the Southeast area sport, subsistence, commercial, and personal use fisheries.

The November 3, 2024 public notice and the April 2, 2025 certification of adoption order both state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.060 is not required.

Because our technical corrections change the page count of the regulations, we respectfully request that your office handwrite the correct number of pages (59) on the certification of adoption order.

Additionally, we respectfully request that these regulations take effect as soon as possible. The Department of Fish and Game publishes annual regulation summaries to assist participants in all fisheries. It does not generate the publications until it can incorporate new regulations resulting from adoption by the Board of Fisheries. An earlier effective date would make the publications available to the public sooner and provide a valuable tool that aids in compliance and enforcement of the newly adopted regulations.

We have made some technical corrections necessary to conform the regulations in accordance with AS 44.62.060. The corrections are incorporated into the attached copy of the regulations.

Sincerely,

TREG TAYLOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Chief Assistant Attorney General
Legislation, Regulations, and
Legislative Research Section

Digitally signed by
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Date: 2025.05.27
13:05:09 -08'00'

RCP/SCW

CC w/enclosure: Shellene Hutter
Department of Fish and Game

Aaron Peterson, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

Steven C. Weaver, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

**ORDER CERTIFYING THE CHANGES TO REGULATIONS
OF THE ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES**

The attached ⁵⁹~~57~~ pages of regulations, changes to 5 AAC for subsistence, sport, commercial and personal use fisheries occurring in the southeast Alaska area are certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted at its public hearing held from January 28th - February 29th in Ketchikan, Alaska under the authority of AS 16.05.251 and after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

On the record, in considering public comments, the Alaska Board of Fisheries paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes described in this order take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

DATE: 4/2/2025
Anchorage, Alaska

DocuSigned by:
Ben Mulligan
939B66571A4D4AB...

Benjamin Mulligan, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Fish and Game

Apr. 1 Simpson for

FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on

May 28, 2025 at 10:03 a.m., I filed the attached regulations according to the provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.

for *Nancy Dahlstrom*
Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor
State of Alaska

Effective: June 27, 2025.

Register: 254, July 2025.

FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY

I, NANCY DAHLSTROM, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:

April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have
signed and affixed the Seal of the State of
Alaska, in Juneau, on May 15th, 2023.**



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Nancy Dahlstrom", is written over a horizontal dotted line.

**NANCY DAHLSTROM
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

Title 5. Fish and Game.

Chapter 01. Subsistence Finfish Fishery.

5 AAC 01.714(b) is amended to read:

(b) A vessel or a person on board a vessel from which subsistence fishing gear [A LONGLINE] is used to take groundfish for subsistence uses in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict or the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict, described in 5 AAC 28.105,

(1) may not operate commercial fishing [LONGLINE] gear to take groundfish for commercial uses [FOR GROUND FISH] from that vessel until all subsistence-taken groundfish are offloaded from the vessel; and

(2) is subject to the restrictions in 5 AAC 28.180. (Eff. 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.720(5) is amended to read:

(5) in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict and Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict, a sablefish permit holder's pot gear must have at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of three and one-half [THREE AND THREE-FOURTHS] inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls and must have individual tunnel eye openings with perimeters of 36 inches or less; [.]

(In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 6/25/89, Register 110; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 01.720(4) to a semicolon.)))

5 AAC 01.745(h)(1)(A)(i) is amended to read:

(i) Basket Bay: the possession and annual limit is 30 [15] sockeye

salmon [, WITH AN ANNUAL LIMIT OF 30 SOCKEYE SALMON];

(In effect before 1988; am 5/23/88, Register 106; am 6/25/89, Register 110; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 6/19/97, Register 142; am 6/3/2000, Register 154; am 6/5/2016, Register 218; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 5/26/2023, Register 246; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

5 AAC 01.760(d)(5) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(C) notwithstanding 5 AAC 01.720(1), allow the use of seine or gillnet

gear in the subsistence fishery in the waters of Redoubt Bay north (seaward) of a line approximately 100 yards from the base of the falls, as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers.

(Eff. 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; am 6/5/2016, Register 218; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.258 AS 16.05.330

AS 16.05.251

Chapter 02. Subsistence Shellfish Fishery.

5 AAC 02.110 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(6) shrimp may only be taken from May 1 through February 28. (In effect before 1988; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 6/3/2000, Register 154; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

((Publisher: please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 02.110(5) to a semicolon.)))

Chapter 27. Herring Fishery.

5 AAC 27.110(b)(1)(E) is amended to read:

(E) Section 13-B, north of the latitude of Aspid Cape 56° 41.14' N. lat.

[(56° 41.75' N. LAT.)], except for Whale and Necker Bays;

(In effect before 1983; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 12/29/84, Register 92; am 3/16/89, Register 109; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 5/2/92, Register 122; am 4/24/97, Register 142; am 1/29/98, Register 145; am 10/12/2000, Register 156; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 4/24/2003, Register 166; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 27.160(g) is amended to read:

(g) The guideline harvest level for the herring sac roe fishery in Sections 13-A and 13-B shall be established by the department, [AND] will be a harvest rate [PERCENTAGE] that is not

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

less than 10 [12] percent **and** [,] not more than 15 [20] percent, and within that range shall be determined by the following formula:

Harvest Rate = 0.000002 * Forecast + 0.048

[HARVEST RATE PERCENTAGE = 2 + 8 [SPAWNING BIOMASS (IN TONS) / 20,000]]

The fishery will not be conducted if the spawning biomass is less than 26,000 [25,000] tons.

(In effect before 1983; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 12/29/84, Register 92; am 3/16/89, Register 109; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 4/24/97, Register 142; am 1/29/98, Register 145; am 4/24/2003, Register 166; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 27.190(4) is amended to read:

(4) [EXCEPT AS PROVIDED ELSEWHERE,] may allow a harvest of herring at an exploitation rate between 10 percent and 15 [20] percent of the estimated spawning biomass when that biomass is above the minimum threshold level, **except as otherwise provided in this chapter;**

(Eff. 4/23/94, Register 130; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 28. Groundfish Fishery.

5 AAC 28.111 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(c) The season opening for the directed demersal shelf rockfish fishery in the Southeast Outside Subdistrict will be delayed for the management area eligible to be opened under this subsection for

(1) 24 hours if the corresponding National Weather Service marine forecast issued during the 48 hours before the season opening contains freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for the scheduled opening date; and

(2) 48 hours if the corresponding National Weather Service marine forecast issued during the 48 hours before the season opening date contains freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for the day after the scheduled opening date.

(d) Announcement of a season opening delay under (c) of this section will be issued at least 24 hours before the season opening of the fishery. If freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher continue after the initial delay, the season opening will be delayed an additional 24 hours. The delay may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis as necessary for up to five days after the scheduled opening date.

(e) For the purposes of this section, the corresponding National Weather Service marine forecast areas for the management sections of the Southeast Outside Subdistrict are as follows:

(1) East Yakutat (EYKT) Section: Cape Fairweather to Icy Cape;

(2) Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section: Cape Edgecumbe to Cape Spencer and Cape Spencer to Cape Fairweather;

(3) Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section: Cape Decision to Cape Edgecumbe and Cape Edgecumbe to Cape Spencer;

(4) Southern Southeast Outside (SSEO) Section: Dixon Entrance to Cape Decision. (Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 6/3/2000, Register 154; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.113 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(e) The season opening for the directed lingcod fishery in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska, excluding the Icy Bay Subdistrict superexclusive registration area, will be delayed in all management areas of Registration Area A if the National Weather Service marine forecast for a management area eligible to be opened under this subsection contains freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher in the forecast for May 15, 16, or 17. The season opening will be delayed for

(1) 24 hours if the National Weather Service marine forecast issued by 8:00 a.m. on May 13 contains freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for May 15 or 16; and

(2) 48 hours if the National Weather Service marine forecast issued by 8:00 a.m. on May 13 contains freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher for May 17.

(f) Announcement of a season opening delay under (e) of this section will be issued at least 24 hours before May 16. If freezing spray or gale force winds of 35 knots or higher continue after the initial delay, the season opening will be delayed an additional 24 hours and may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis as necessary for up to five days after the scheduled opening date.

(g) For the purposes of this section, the National Weather Service marine forecast areas for the management sections of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska are as follows:

- (1) Dixon Entrance to Cape Decision;
- (2) Cape Decision to Cape Edgecumbe;
- (3) Cape Edgecumbe to Cape Spencer;
- (4) Cape Spencer to Cape Fairweather;

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

(5) Cape Fairweather to Icy Cape. (Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 6/14/2000, Register 154; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.130(f) is amended to read:

(f) In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, pots may not be longlined, except that pots may be longlined in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict and Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict sablefish fishery, **directed Pacific cod fishery, and groundfish bait fishery as described in 5 AAC 28.190.** In a directed fishery for sablefish, pots used to take sablefish must have at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of **three and one-half** [THREE AND THREE-FOURTHS] inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls.

5 AAC 28.130(h)(1) is amended to read:

(1) **an operational unit of** dinglebar troll gear [IS GEAR THAT] consists of **a train made from** a single line **to which one or more leaders, lures, or baited hooks are attached,** that is **fastened to a single troll wire, and that is deployed and** retrieved [AND SET] with a **single power** troll gurdy or **a single** hand troll gurdy with a terminally attached weight [FROM WHICH ONE OR MORE LEADERS WITH ONE OR MORE LURES OR BAITED HOOKS ARE] pulled through the water while a vessel is making way; only one **operational unit of dinglebar troll gear** [TROLL GURDY LINE OR HAND TROLL GURDY LINE] may be **onboard a vessel or** deployed **from the vessel at or below the surface of** [IN] the water at **a** [ANY] time; **weights, including dinglebars, cannon balls, and other fishing weights, must be**

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

disconnected from the troll wires of all other gurdies that are mounted on the vessel;

additional trains may not be trailed behind the vessel;

(Eff. 7/30/89, Register 111; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 6/14/2000, Register 154; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 7/14/2000, Register 155; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 6/25/2023, Register 246; am

6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.171 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(i) In the Eastern Gulf of Alaska Area, a CFEC salmon troll permit holder operating hand or power troll gear during an open commercial salmon fishing period is not required to retain rockfish incidentally caught while fishing for salmon. Retained rockfish must be weighed and reported on an ADF&G fish ticket. Retained rockfish in excess of allowable bycatch limits established by emergency order, based on the round weight of salmon on board the vessel, must be reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket and sold. Proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish bycatch shall be surrendered to the state. Based on harvest, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close a fishing season or a bycatch season and immediately reopen a fishing season or a bycatch season during which a different rockfish bycatch level is allowed.

(Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 7/14/2000, Register 155; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.173(a)(1) is amended to read:

(1) halibut with longline gear may not land or have on board lingcod in excess of the **allowable bycatch limit** [BYCATCH PERCENTAGE,] specified in the first emergency order of the season, **based on the** [BY] round weight [,] of [ALL] halibut on board the vessel, **as follows:** [;]

(A) lingcod caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit, based on the round weight of halibut on board the vessel, must be immediately released at sea;

(B) lingcod landed in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket and sold; proceeds from the sale of excess lingcod bycatch shall be surrendered to the state;

(C) based on harvest, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the bycatch season and immediately reopen a bycatch season during which a different lingcod bycatch level is allowed;

5 AAC 28.173(a)(3) is amended to read:

(3) halibut and sablefish at the same time may not land or have on board lingcod in excess of the **allowable bycatch limit** [BYCATCH PERCENTAGE,] specified in the first emergency order of the season, **based on the** [BY] round weight [,] of [ALL] halibut on board the vessel, **as follows:** [;]

(A) lingcod caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit, based on the round weight of halibut on board the vessel, must be immediately released at sea;

(B) lingcod landed in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket and sold; proceeds from the sale of excess lingcod bycatch shall be surrendered to the state;

(C) based on harvest [DATA], the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the bycatch [FISHING] season and immediately reopen a bycatch season during which a different lingcod bycatch level is allowed;

5 AAC 28.173(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(5) salmon fishing with troll gear may not land or have on board lingcod in excess of the allowable bycatch limit specified in the first emergency order of the season, based on the round weight of salmon on board the vessel, as follows:

(A) lingcod caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit, based on the round weight of salmon on board the vessel, must be immediately released at sea;

(B) lingcod landed in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket and sold; proceeds from the sale of excess lingcod bycatch shall be surrendered to the state;

(C) based on harvest, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close the bycatch season and immediately reopen a bycatch season during which a different lingcod bycatch level is allowed.

5 AAC 28.173(b) is amended to read:

(b) In the Southeast District, a vessel fishing with longline gear may not land or have on board lingcod in excess of 35 percent, **based on the** [BY] round weight [,] of [ALL] target

species taken in the directed fishery that are on board the vessel, as follows: [.]

(1) lingcod caught in excess of the allowable bycatch limit, based on the round weight of target species on board the vessel, must be immediately released at sea;

(2) lingcod landed in excess of the allowable bycatch limit must be weighed and reported as bycatch overage on an ADF&G fish ticket and sold; proceeds from the sale of excess lingcod bycatch shall be surrendered to the state.

5 AAC 28.173 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(h) In a directed lingcod fishery, a CFEC permit holder shall contact the department at a telephone number or other means specified by the department at the time of registration and provide the following information to the department:

- (1) the CFEC permit holder's name;
- (2) the name of the vessel;
- (3) the groundfish management areas in which the permit holder is fishing;
- (4) the number of lingcod retained in each management area;
- (5) the number of hours fished in each management area; and
- (6) other information requested by the department for the purpose of managing

and conserving lingcod resources. (Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 6/14/2000, Register 154; am 12/30/2000, Register 156; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 28.173(a)(4)(B) to a semicolon.)))

5 AAC 28.175(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) for longline and pot gear must include the permit holder's name and vessel information and

(A) for each trip, the

(i) target species;

(ii) port of landing;

(iii) date the vessel left port and the date the vessel landed;

(iv) vessel's crew size; and

(v) bait used and gear specifications;

(B) for each [, BY] set, the

(i) target species;

(ii) [, THE] date and time the set was deployed and hauled;

(iii) [, THE] specific location of harvest by latitude and longitude, in degrees and decimal minutes, for the vessel's start and ending positions;

(iv) [,] hook spacing and [,] the amount of gear, including the number of hooks, skates, or pots [(NUMBER OF HOOKS)] used, if applicable;

(v) the number of skates or pots lost, if applicable;

(vi) the number of skates or pots impacted by depredation, if applicable; and

(vii) the depth of each set;

(C) for each catch,

(i) the number or estimated weight, in round pounds, of all target

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

species retained and released at sea;

(ii) the number or [TAKEN, AN]estimated weight, in round

pounds, of the bycatch retained or released [DISCARDED] at sea; [,] and

(iii) the tag number of any tagged fish captured; and

(D) other information as required by the commissioner [LANDED;

FOR THE NORTHERN SOUTHEAST INSIDE SUBDISTRICT AND THE
SOUTHERN SOUTHEAST INSIDE SUBDISTRICT SABLEFISH FISHERIES, A
LOGBOOK MUST INCLUDE A RECORD OF THE ROUND WEIGHT DELIVERED,
THE PURCHASING PROCESSOR, AND DATE OF EACH DELIVERY DURING
THAT SEASON IF MULTIPLE LANDINGS HAVE BEEN MADE];

(Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/15/97, Register 142; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 6/14/2000,
Register 154; am 12/30/2000, Register 156; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register
190; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 28.180(a) is amended to read:

(a) A vessel or a person on board a vessel may not participate in a commercial
sablefish fishery [FROM WHICH COMMERCIAL, SUBSISTENCE, OR PERSONAL USE
LONGLINE FISHING GEAR WAS USED TO TAKE FISH] in the Northern Southeast Inside
Subdistrict or the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict if the vessel or a person on board the
vessel operates commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use halibut or groundfish
fishing gear [SUBDISTRICTS] during the 72-hour period immediately before an opening
[THE START] of the commercial sablefish fishery in that subdistrict [, OR FROM WHICH

THAT GEAR WILL BE USED DURING THE 24-HOUR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSURE OF THE COMMERCIAL SABLEFISH FISHERY IN THAT SUBDISTRICT, MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE TAKING OF SABLEFISH IN THAT SUBDISTRICT DURING THAT OPEN SABLEFISH FISHING PERIOD. A VESSEL OR A PERSON ON BOARD A VESSEL WHO HAS HARVESTED AND SOLD THAT VESSEL OR PERSON'S ENTIRE EQUAL QUOTA SHARE BEFORE THE FINAL DAY OF THE SABLEFISH SEASON IN THAT SUBDISTRICT IS EXEMPT FROM THE PROHIBITION ON FISHING LONGLINE GEAR DURING THE 24-HOUR PERIOD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE OF THE SABLEFISH FISHERY IN THAT SUBDISTRICT].

5 AAC 28.180(b) is amended to read:

(b) A vessel or a CFEC permit holder [PERSON] on board a vessel that participates in a commercial sablefish fishery [FISHING FOR SABLEFISH] in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict or the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict [SUBDISTRICTS] may not operate subsistence, sport, or personal use halibut or [LONGLINE GEAR FOR] groundfish fishing gear during a [FROM THAT VESSEL UNTIL ALL] commercial sablefish opening or during the 72 hours immediately following the closure of a commercial sablefish fishery in that subdistrict unless

(1) the vessel or CFEC permit holder on board the vessel is not registered for the commercial sablefish fishery in that subdistrict;

(2) the vessel or CFEC permit holder onboard the vessel has harvested the total allowable equal quota share pounds registered to that vessel or CFEC permit holder

and at least 72 hours have passed since commercially harvested sablefish were offloaded from the vessel;

(3) commercial fishing gear used in the commercial sablefish fishery by the vessel or the CFEC permit holder onboard a vessel has been removed from the water for at least 72 hours; or

(4) at least 72 hours have passed since the vessel owner, or owner's agent, has contacted a local representative of the department and requested that the department cancel the vessel's commercial sablefish registration, and the department has canceled the vessel's commercial sablefish registration [OFFLOADED FROM THE VESSEL].

(Eff. 7/30/89, Register 111; am 4/30/91, Register 118; am 4/15/94, Register 130; am 6/3/2000, Register 154; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 29. Salmon Troll Fishery.

5 AAC 29.060(b)(4) is amended to read:

(4) troll fishery: 77 [80] percent, after the net fishery allocations in (1) - (3) of this subsection are subtracted from the annual harvest ceiling;

5 AAC 29.060(b)(5) is amended to read:

(5) sport fishery: 23 [20] percent, after the net fishery allocations in (1) - (3) of this subsection are subtracted from the annual harvest ceiling;

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

5 AAC 29.060(b)(6) is amended to read:

(6) if the projected annual Southeast Alaska all-gear harvest is below the annual harvest ceiling, **the projected unused** [ANY REMAINING] allocation from **the** [THOSE] gear groups listed in **(1) - (5)** [(1) - (3) AND (5)] of this subsection may be allocated **by the department to another gear group** [TO THE TROLL FISHERY] beginning at a season date determined by the department and established by emergency order.

(Eff. 10/1/98, Register 147; am 6/1/2003, Register 166; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 29.090(i) is amended to read:

(i) The commissioner may open, by emergency order, a spring salmon troll fishery for **two days** [ONE DAY] per week during May and June in the Yakutat Bay area east of a line from Point Manby at 59° 41.68' N. lat., 140° 19.64' W. long., to a point south of Ocean Cape Light at 59° 32.11' N. lat., 139° 51.32' W. long., with a maximum harvest of 1,000 king salmon.

(Eff. 10/1/98, Register 147; am 6/14/2000, Register 154; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; em am 4/13/2005 - 8/10/2005, Register 174; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 29.100(c)(1)(B)(ii) is amended to read:

(ii) if a closure is not necessary to achieve coho salmon harvest

guidelines after the reopening of the king salmon troll fishery [, NO LATER THAN AUGUST 20,] but only following a two-day closure to allow a fair start **if a competitive fishery is prosecuted;**

5 AAC 29.100(c)(1)(D)(i) is amended to read:

(i) a limited harvest fishery may be opened for up to 10 days, but may not open before **August 1** [SEPTEMBER 1];

5 AAC 29.100(c)(2)(D)(viii) is amended to read:

(viii) **the department may require a holder of a CFEC hand troll or power troll permit to register with the department before harvesting king salmon in a limited harvest fishery** [ANY OTHER CONDITIONS THE COMMISSIONER DETERMINES NECESSARY TO CONDUCT AN ORDERLY LIMITED HARVEST FISHERY];

5 AAC 29.100(c)(2)(D) is amended by adding new sub-subparagraphs to read:

(ix) if a permit holder is required to register, the permit holder shall register during the specified limited harvest fishery registration period as specified by the department; a physical or electronic copy of the completed limited harvest fishery registration form that has been endorsed by department staff must be kept on board the vessel if king salmon are retained in a limited harvest fishery and during transits to or from a port of landing when king salmon taken in a limited harvest fishery are on board;

(x) following a limited harvest fishery, if the department determines that the number of king salmon remaining on the annual king salmon harvest allocation is sufficient to provide for an additional limited harvest fishery, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reopen the troll fishery to the taking of king salmon during a limited harvest fishery, subject to (i) - (ix) of this subparagraph;

(xi) the commissioner may impose other conditions that the commissioner determines necessary to conduct an orderly limited harvest fishery;

(Eff. 10/1/98, Register 147; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 30. Yakutat Area.

5 AAC 30.350(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(13) waters of Sudden Stream including all waters of Malaspina Lake upstream of a line from 59° 48.26' N. lat., 139° 59.35' W. long., to 59° 48.33' N. lat., 139° 59.24' W. long.

(In effect before 1986; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 6/28/97, Register 142; am 10/1/98, Register 147; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 7/11/2018, Register 227; am

6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

((Publisher, please add a semicolon at the end of 5 AAC 30.350(a)(12); do not delete the period at the end of "long.")))

5 AAC 30.365(b) is amended to read:

(b) The biological escapement goal for the Situk River king salmon is 730 [THREE OCEAN AGE AND OLDER] fish three ocean years of age or older, with a range of 450 - 1,050 fish.

5 AAC 30.365(c) is amended to read:

(c) The department shall manage the commercial, sport, and subsistence fisheries for king salmon as follows:

(1) until at least 450 king salmon three ocean years of age or older have passed the Situk River weir located approximately two miles upstream of the mouth, [IF THE PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT IS LESS THAN 350 THREE OCEAN AGE AND OLDER FISH, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL CLOSE, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, THE KING SALMON]

(A) the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River is closed;

(B) retention of king salmon in the subsistence [, PERSONAL USE,] and commercial set gillnet fisheries in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River is prohibited; [AND]

(C) the commercial troll fishery shall be closed in the waters of Alaska bounded on the west by the [SEAWARD LIMIT OF THE] three-nautical-mile limit of the territorial sea and on the north by a line extending seaward from 59° 30.49' N. lat.,

139° 46.58' W. long., [(OCEAN CAPE)] and intersecting the three-nautical-mile limit at 59° 28.44' [59° 28.65'] N. lat., 139° 51.68' [139° 51.17'] W. long., and on the south by a line extending seaward from 59° 21.07' [59° 20.30'] N. lat., 139° 19.73' [139° 16.50'] W. long., and intersecting the three-nautical-mile limit at 59° 19.08' [59° 18.25'] N. lat., 139° 24.98' [139° 21.94'] W. long.; **and**

(D) weekly fishing periods in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River commercial set gillnet fisheries may be restricted;

(2) **when at least 450 king salmon three ocean years of age or older have passed the Situk River weir located approximately two miles upstream of the mouth,** [IF THE PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT IS 350 - 450 THREE OCEAN AGE OR OLDER FISH THE COMMISSIONER]

(A) **retention of king salmon may open, by emergency order, in the subsistence fishery and shall open before a sport or commercial opening;** [SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, CLOSE THE SPORT FISHERY FOR KING SALMON IN THE SITUK RIVER; AND]

(B) **retention of king salmon may open, by emergency order, in the commercial set gillnet fisheries in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River;**

(C) [MAY, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES:

(i) ESTABLISH A NONRETENTION KING SALMON SEASON IN THE SITUK-AHRNKLIN INLET AND LOST RIVER SET GILLNET FISHERIES;

(ii) CLOSE] the commercial salmon troll fishery may open, by emergency order, in the waters of Alaska bounded on the west by the [SEAWARD LIMIT OF THE] three-nautical-mile limit of the territorial sea and on the north by a line extending seaward from 59° 30.49' N. lat., 139° 46.58' W. long., [(OCEAN CAPE)] and intersecting the three-nautical-mile limit at 59° 28.44' [59° 28.65'] N. lat., 139° 51.68' [139° 51.17'] W. long., and on the south by a line extending seaward from 59° 21.07' [59° 20.30'] N. lat., 139° 19.73' [139° 16.50'] W. long., and intersecting the three-nautical-mile limit at 59° 19.08' [59° 18.25'] N. lat., 139° 24.98' [139° 21.94'] W. long.;

[(iii) RESTRICT THE WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS IN THE SITUK-AHRNKLIN INLET AND LOST RIVER SET GILLNET FISHERIES;]

and

(D) the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River may open downstream of the weir located at approximately river mile two;

(3) when at least 730 king salmon three ocean years of age or older have passed the Situk River weir located approximately two miles upstream of the mouth, [IF THE PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT IS 451 - 730 THREE OCEAN AGE OR OLDER FISH, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL, BY EMERGENCY ORDER, IMPLEMENT ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES:]

(A) retention of king salmon shall open, by emergency order, in the subsistence fishery [ESTABLISH A NONRETENTION KING SALMON SEASON IN THE SITUK-AHRNKLIN INLET AND LOST RIVER SET GILLNET FISHERIES];

(B) [CLOSE] the commercial salmon troll fishery may open, by emergency order, in the waters of Alaska bounded on the west by the [SEAWARD

LIMIT OF THE] three-nautical-mile limit of the territorial sea and on the north by a line extending seaward from 59° 30.49' N. lat., 139° 46.58' W. long., [(OCEAN CAPE)] and intersecting the three-nautical-mile limit at 59° 28.44' [59° 28.65'] N. lat., 139° 51.68' [139° 51.17'] W. long., and on the south by a line extending seaward from 59° 21.07' [59° 20.30'] N. lat., 139° 19.73' [139° 16.50'] W. long., and intersecting the three-nautical-mile limit at 59° 19.08' [59° 18.25'] N. lat., 139° 24.98' [139° 21.94'] W. long.;

(C) the commissioner shall manage the commercial set net fisheries [RESTRICT THE WEEKLY FISHING PERIODS] in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River based solely on the sockeye salmon run strength, while allowing for the retention of king salmon [SET GILLNET FISHERIES]; and

(D) the sport fishery for king salmon in the Situk River may open downstream of the weir located at approximately river mile two [RESTRICT THE SPORT HARVEST OF KING SALMON IN THE SITUK RIVER BY IMPLEMENTING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING MANAGEMENT MEASURES:

(i) CLOSE PORTIONS OF THE SITUK RIVER TO SPORT FISHING FOR KING SALMON;

(ii) ESTABLISH A CATCH AND RELEASE SPORT FISHERY ONLY FOR KING SALMON 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH];

(4) [IF THE PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT IS GREATER THAN 730 THREE OCEAN AGE AND OLDER FISH BUT LESS THAN 1,050 FISH, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL,

(A) MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL SET GILLNET FISHERIES IN

THE SITUK-AHRNKLIN INLET AND LOST RIVER BASED ON THE SOCKEYE SALMON RUN STRENGTH;

(B) MANAGE THE COMMERCIAL SALMON TROLL FISHERY AS SPECIFIED IN 5 AAC 29.100 IN THE WATERS OF ALASKA BOUNDED ON THE WEST BY THE SEAWARD LIMIT OF THE THREE-NAUTICAL-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND ON THE NORTH BY A LINE EXTENDING SEAWARD FROM 59° 30.49' N. LAT., 139° 46.58' W. LONG. (OCEAN CAPE) AND INTERSECTING THE THREE-NAUTICAL-MILE LIMIT AT 59° 28.65' N. LAT., 139° 51.17' W. LONG. AND ON THE SOUTH BY A LINE EXTENDING SEAWARD FROM 59° 20.30' N. LAT., 139° 16.50' W. LONG. AND INTERSECTING THE THREE-NAUTICAL-MILE LIMIT AT 59° 18.25' N. LAT., 139° 21.94' W. LONG.;

(5)] when 1,050 king salmon three ocean years of age or older have passed the Situk River weir located approximately two miles upstream of the mouth [IF THE PROJECTED ESCAPEMENT IS GREATER THAN 1,050 THREE OCEAN AGE AND OLDER FISH], the department shall manage the commercial, sport, and subsistence fisheries as necessary to harvest large king salmon in excess of the biological escapement goal range; to achieve this goal the commissioner may, by emergency order, implement one or more of the following management measures:

(A) liberalize seasons, areas, and method and means in the Situk River under 5 AAC 75.003(2)(A);

(B) increase the sport fishery bag, [AND] possession, and annual limits for king salmon 20 [28] inches or greater in length [, TO THREE FISH PER DAY AND SIX IN POSSESSION, WITH NO ANNUAL LIMIT];

(C) [REPEALED 7/13/2012;

(D)] manage the commercial set gillnet fisheries in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River based on the sockeye salmon run strength;

(D) [(E)] in the Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River set gillnet fisheries, allow the use of one additional gillnet that is no more than 20 fathoms in length and no more than 45 meshes in depth, with a mesh size of no less than seven and one-half inches, for the directed taking of king salmon during periods when sockeye salmon may or may not be retained. (Eff. 4/30/91, Register 118; am 4/23/94, Register 130; am 6/14/2000, Register 154; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 9/7/2012, Register 203; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 31. Shrimp Fishery.

5 AAC 31.100 is amended to read:

5 AAC 31.100. Description of Registration Area A. Registration Area A (Southeastern Alaska) has as its southern boundary the International Boundary at Dixon Entrance and as its northern boundary a line extending seaward [RUNNING SOUTHWEST] from the western [WESTERNMOST] tip of Cape Fairweather at 58° 47.89' N. lat., 137° 56.68' W. long., to the intersection with the seaward limit of the three-nautical-mile territorial sea at 58° 45.96' N. lat., 138° 01.40' W. long. (In effect before 1986; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 7/30/89, Register 111; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

5 AAC 31.105 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 31.105. Description of Registration Area A districts and sections. Registration Area A districts and sections are described in 5 AAC 33.200. (In effect before 1986; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 10/12/2000, Register 156; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 31.115(a)(6) is amended to read:

(6) District 6: Sections 6-B, 6-C, [AND] 6-D, and 6-E, combined: 0 - 60,000 pounds of spot shrimp;
(In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81, Register 78; am 7/25/82, Register 83; am 6/30/84, Register 90; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 4/15/94, Register 130; am 9/28/97, Register 143; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 31.124(b) is amended to read:

(b) A shrimp pot

(1) other than a shrimp pot described in (2) of this subsection, may not have

(A) [(1)] more than one bottom;

(B) [(2)] a vertical height of more than 24 inches;

(C) [(3)] more than four tunnel eye openings that [WHICH] individually [DO NOT] exceed 15 inches in perimeter; or

(D) [(4)] a bottom perimeter exceeding a perimeter specified in (e) of this section;

(2) that is a collapsible, coil spring shrimp pot, commonly known as a slinky pot,

(A) may not have a vertical diameter of more than 24 inches;

(B) may not have a horizontal length of more than 48 inches;

(C) may not have more than one tunnel eye opening on each vertical end that individually exceed 15 inches in perimeter;

(D) must be entirely covered with net webbing; the net webbing covering the horizontal portion of the pot must allow the passage of a seven-eighths inch diameter by 12 inch long wooden dowel that upon insertion into the web must drop completely through by its own weight, without force; and

(E) must contain two openings in the mesh with each equal to or exceeding six inches in length; the openings must each be laced, sewn, or secured together by a single length of untreated, 100 percent cotton twine not larger than 30 thread; the cotton twine may be knotted at each end only; the openings must be on opposite sides of the pot; if placed on the vertical end the opening must be in an area that does not include the door opening, within six inches of the edge of the pot.

5 AAC 31.124(e)(2) is amended to read:

(2) the number of shrimp pots that may be operated from a registered shrimp fishing vessel is 140 small pots, 140 slinky pots, or 100 large pots; for the purposes of this section,

5 AAC 31.124(e)(2) is amended to by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(C) a "slinky pot" has the dimensions set out under (b)(2) of this section;

5 AAC 31.124(e)(3) is amended to read:

(3) all pots on board a vessel or operated from a vessel must be of the same type and of the same size as set out under [DEFINED IN] (2)(A), [OR] (B), or (C) of this subsection;

(Eff. 9/28/97, Register 143; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 32. Dungeness Crab Fishery.

5 AAC 32.105 is amended to read:

5 AAC 32.105. Description of Registration Area A districts. The districts for Registration Area A for Dungeness crab are the same as the districts that are described in 5 AAC 33.200 [5 AAC 31.105]. (In effect before 1986; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

5 AAC 32.128(a) is amended to read:

(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, personal use, or subsistence 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.

(Eff. 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 8/27/2016, Register 219; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 33. Southeastern Alaska Area.

5 AAC 33.200(j) is amended to read:

(j) District 10: Frederick Sound, Stephens Passage, and contiguous waters north of a line from Beacon Point at 56° 56.37' N. lat., 132° 59.75' W. long., to Wood Point at 56° 59.55' N. lat., 132° 56.96' W. long., east of a line from Point Macartney at 57° 01.49' N. lat., 134° 03.52' W. long., to the southernmost tip of Elliott Island at 57° 15.19' N. lat., 134° 03.72' W. long., north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Elliott Island at 57° 15.19' N. lat., Seymour Canal south of 57° 36.71' N. lat., and south of a line from Point League at 57° 37.76' N. lat., 133° 40.47' W. long., to Point Hugh at 57° 34.22' N. lat., 133° 48.62' W. long.;

(1) Section 10-A: waters west of line from a point on the Districts 9 and 10 boundary line at 57° 08.80' N. lat., 134° 03.63' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Akusha Island at 57° 18.37' N. lat., 133° 39.48' W. long., to McDonald Rock Light at 57° 25.10' N. lat., 133° 37.83' W. long., to a point at 57° 35.92' N. lat., 133° 44.71' W. long.;

(2) Section 10-B: waters north of a line from Pinta Point at 57° 05.96' N. lat., 133° 52.82' W. long., to Cape Fanshaw Light at 57° 11.12' N. lat., 133° 34.43' W. long., and east of a line from a point on the Districts 9 and 10 boundary line at 57° 08.80' N. lat., 134° 03.63' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Akusha Island at 57° 18.37' N. lat., 133° 39.48' W. long., to McDonald Rock Light at 57° 25.10' N. lat., 133° 37.83' W. long., to a point at 57° 35.92' N. lat., 133° 44.71' W. long.;

(3) Section 10-C: waters east of a line from Pinta Point at 57° 05.96' N. lat., 133° 52.82' W. long., to Cape Fanshaw Light at 57° 11.12' N. lat., 133° 34.43' W. long.

(In effect before 1985; am 5/31/85, Register 94; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 6/28/97, Register 142; am 10/1/98, Register 147; am 10/12/2000, Register 156; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 2/22/2015, Register 213; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 7/28/2023, Register 247; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 6/27/2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 33.374(a) is amended to read:

(a) The Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area for chum, king, and coho salmon consists of the waters of District 12 [WITHIN TWO NAUTICAL MILES OF THE BARANOF ISLAND SHORELINE] south of the latitude of South Point at 57° 16.28' N. lat., and north of 57° 06.76' [57° 06.83'] N. lat., and west of a line from a point offshore at 57° 16.28' N. lat., 134° 48.00' W. long., to a point offshore at 57° 06.76' N. lat., 134° 43.00' W. long., excluding the waters of Kelp Bay.

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

(Eff. 6/25/89, Register 110; am 4/23/94, Register 130; am 6/28/97, Register 142; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.10.455

5 AAC 33.381 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 33.381. District 6: Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan. (a) The Wrangell Narrows-Blind Slough Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan distributes the harvest of Crystal Lake Hatchery king and coho salmon returns to the terminal harvest area of Wrangell Narrows in Section 6-A south of 56° 46.00' N. lat., and north and east of the northern tip of Woewodski Island at 56° 35.75' N. lat., 132° 59.35' W. long., and the fresh waters of Blind Slough upstream of a line between Blind Point at 56° 38.84' N. lat., 132° 54.94' W. long., and Anchor Point at 56° 38.30' N. lat., 132° 55.67' W. long., among fisheries while protecting hatchery broodstock.

(b) The fresh waters from a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point upstream to a line at 56° 37.97' N. lat., 132° 53.47' W. long., to 56° 37.97' N. lat., 132° 53.63' W. long., are open to sport fishing, except as provided in 5 AAC 77.682.

(c) The fresh waters upstream from a line at 56° 37.97' N. lat., 132° 53.47' W. long., to 56° 37.97' N. lat., 132° 53.63' W. long., upstream to a line at 56° 36.87' N. lat., 132° 49.40' W. long., to 56° 36.82' N. lat., 132° 49.40' W. long., are closed to sport fishing from May 15 through August 15, unless opened by emergency order.

(d) A nonresident king salmon annual limit within the terminal harvest area is twice the nonresident daily bag and possession limit as set out under this section. The nonresident king

salmon annual limit within the terminal harvest area does not count against the nonresident king salmon annual limit outside the terminal harvest area established under 5 AAC 47.055(c).

(e) The harvest of Crystal Lake Hatchery king salmon in the terminal harvest area will be distributed between the sport and commercial fisheries as follows:

(1) when the projected adult return of king salmon to the terminal harvest area is below 1,000 fish, sport and commercial salmon fisheries in the terminal harvest area will be closed to king salmon from May 15 through August 15;

(2) when the projected adult return of king salmon to the terminal harvest area is at least 1,000 but less than 2,000 fish, the commissioner shall open, by emergency order, the season for the terminal harvest area of Wrangell Narrows to sport fishing for king salmon with a resident daily bag and possession limit of one king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of one king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15, during which time the terminal harvest area commercial salmon fishery in Wrangell Narrows will be closed; Blind Slough will be open to residents only with a daily bag and possession limit of one king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15;

(3) when the projected adult return of king salmon to the terminal harvest area is at least 2,000 but less than 3,000 fish, the commissioner shall open, by emergency order, the season for the terminal harvest area to sport fishing for king salmon with a resident daily bag and possession limit of two king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of one king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15, during which time the commercial salmon fishery in the terminal harvest area of Wrangell Narrows will be closed; Blind Slough will be open to the sport fishery with a resident daily bag and possession limit of two king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of one king

salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15;

(4) when the projected adult return of king salmon to the terminal harvest area is at least 3,000 but less than 4,000 fish, the commissioner shall open, by emergency order, the terminal harvest area of Wrangell Narrows to sport fishing for king salmon with a resident daily bag and possession limit of three king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of two king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15, during which time the commercial salmon fishery in the terminal harvest area in Wrangell Narrows will be closed; Blind Slough will be open to the sport fishery with a resident daily bag and possession limit of three king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of two king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15;

(5) when the projected adult return of king salmon to the terminal harvest area is more than 4,000 fish, the commissioner shall open, by emergency order, the season for the terminal harvest area of Wrangell Narrows and Blind Slough to sport fishing for king salmon with a resident daily bag and possession limit of four king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of three king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15, during which time the commercial fishery in the terminal harvest area of Wrangell Narrows will be opened to harvest 50 percent of the projected return over 4,000 fish; Blind Slough will be open to the sport fishery with a resident daily bag and possession limit of four king salmon of any length and a nonresident daily bag and possession limit of three king salmon of any length from May 15 through August 15.

(f) An angler that has harvested the daily bag limit from either the fresh or marine waters of the terminal harvest area may not take a king salmon from the other area of the terminal harvest in the same day.

(g) The department may close the sport fishery during periods of drought and warm water conditions to reduce stress on king salmon holding in Blind Slough.

(h) The department may, in the absence of broodstock concerns, increase harvest opportunity through one or more of the following actions:

(1) opening the closed area in the freshwater upstream from a line at 56° 37.97' N. lat., 132° 53.47' W. long., to 56° 37.97' N. lat., 132° 53.63' W. long., upstream to a line at 56° 36.87' N. lat., 132° 49.40' W. long., to 56° 36.82' N. lat., 132° 49.40' W. long., from May 15 through August 15;

(2) increasing daily bag and possession limits;

(3) removing annual nonresident limits;

(4) extending the dates of the management plan.

(i) The commissioner shall open and close, by emergency order, fishing seasons and periods to manage the return of coho salmon to

(1) assure adequate returns of hatchery broodstock;

(2) provide the sport fishery priority over the commercial harvest; the commissioner may allow the sport fishery to exceed over time the historical take of 20 percent of the returning harvest;

(3) provide the personal use fishery priority over the commercial harvest; the commissioner may allow the personal use fishery to exceed over time the historical take of five percent of the returning harvest; in the waters described in (a) of this section that are open to personal use coho salmon fishing under a personal use salmon fishing permit issued under 5 AAC 77.682, the possession and annual limit is 25 coho salmon; and

(4) provide fishing periods for coho salmon to allow a commercial harvest of up

to 75 percent of the returning coho salmon based on the department's determination that the harvest is consistent with the priority of satisfying the sport and personal use fisheries' demand.

(j) Due to harvest objectives in the terminal harvest area, the waters of Frederick Sound east of a line from Boulder Point to Point Highland are closed to commercial salmon fishing from April 16 through May 31, except that if there is an allowable catch for Stikine River king salmon, the commissioner may open fishing periods in the waters of Frederick Sound east of a line from Beacon Point to Wood Point as specified in 5 AAC 33.368. (Eff. 6/28/97, Register 142; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; em am 4/13/2005 - 8/10/2005, Register 174; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 6/5/2016, Register 218; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 **AS 16.10.455**

5 AAC 33 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 33.389. District 6: Burnett Inlet Terminal Harvest Area Salmon

Management Plan. (a) The Burnett Terminal Harvest Area Salmon Management Plan distributes the harvest of hatchery-produced chum salmon in the Burnett Inlet Terminal Harvest Area between the purse seine, troll, and drift gillnet fleets.

(b) The department, in consultation with the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, shall manage the terminal harvest area from June 1 through November 10 for troll, purse seine, and drift gillnet gear to provide for the harvest of hatchery-produced chum salmon, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

(c) The terminal harvest area consists of waters of Burnett Inlet north of 56° 04.65' N. lat.

(d) A drift gillnet operated in the terminal harvest area may not exceed 200 fathoms in

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

length and a maximum mesh size of six inches. (Eff. 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.10.455

Chapter 34. King Crab Fishery.

5 AAC 34.107 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 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. lat., 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: all waters of Section 13-C and the waters of Section 13-A in Peril Strait east of Point Kakul at 57° 21.83' N. lat., 135° 41.42' W. long., and the waters of Districts 12 south of East Point at 57° 48.34' N. lat., 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.

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

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

(e) 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 Blaquiére 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) 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) Lower Chatham Strait Area: all waters of District 5 south of the latitude of Point Baker at 56° 21.53' N. lat., 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) Southern Area: all waters of District 1, District 2, and Section 3-A, 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. (Eff. 7/23/88, Register 107; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 6/24/93, Register 126; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 34.110(a) is amended to read:

(a) Male red king crab may only be taken [ONLY] from 10:00 a.m. [12:00 NOON] November 1 through January 24.

5 AAC 34.110(b) is amended to read:

(b) Male golden king crab may only be taken [ONLY] from 10:00 a.m. [12:00 NOON] on the date following the largest [WITH THE SMALLEST] Juneau tidal range between February 10 and February 17, as announced by emergency order, through December 1.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 34.110(f) is amended to read:

(f) A season opening may be delayed if the National Weather Service forecast for the major fishing areas in the Southeast Region contains **freezing spray or** gale force wind warnings of 35 knots and higher on the 4:00 a.m. forecast for the day **before** [PRECEDING] the start date and the following day, in which case the season opening in all sections of Registration Area A eligible for a season opening will be delayed 24 hours. **Announcement** [AND ANNOUNCEMENT] of **a season opening** [THIS] delay will be issued 24 hours before the start of the fishery. If **freezing spray or** [AFTER THE INITIAL DELAY] gale warnings continue regionwide **after the initial delay**, the season opening in all eligible sections may be delayed an additional 24 hours. A season opening delay may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis. For the purposes of this subsection, the corresponding National Weather Service forecast areas considered within the Southeast Region are as follows:

...

(In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81, Register 78; am 7/25/82, Register 83; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 6/30/84, Register 90; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 7/23/88, Register 107; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 6/24/93, Register 126; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am

6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 34.113 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 34.113. Southeast Alaska red and blue king crab harvest strategy. (a) The commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Southeast Alaska red and blue king crab fishery only if the department's preseason biomass estimate of legal male red and blue king crab

equals at least 50 percent of the median biomass estimate of legal males.

(b) If the commercial red and blue king crab fishery is open under (a) of this section, and the preseason biomass estimate of legal males is

(1) at least 50 percent but less than 100 percent of the median biomass estimate of legal males, the biomass of legal males available for harvest will not exceed $0.1 \times \text{LMB} \times (\text{LMB}/\text{LMB}_{\text{MED}})$, where "LMB" is equal to the current year preseason biomass estimate of legal males, and " LMB_{MED} " is equal to the median biomass estimate of legal males; or

(2) equal to or greater than the LMB_{MED} , the biomass of legal males available for harvest will not exceed 10 percent of the preseason estimate of LMB.

(c) In implementing the harvest strategy, the department shall consider the reliability of biomass estimates of red and blue king crab, the manageability of the fishery, and other factors the department determines important to manage the fishery consistent with sustained yield principles. The department shall use the best scientific information available and consider all sources of uncertainty as necessary to avoid overfishing.

(d) In Registration Area A, the holder of a CFEC permit for red or blue king crab may not retain more king crab in the directed fishery than the annual amount of king crab individual catch limit that is specified by the department. The department shall determine the annual amount of king crab individual catch limit by dividing the annual total allowable catch by the number of CFEC permits eligible to be fished in the fishery. The department shall use the best available information, including harvest rate and biological data, to set the total allowable catch.

(e) A commercial or personal use harvest that exceeds the permit holder's individual

catch limit established under (d) of this section must be reported as an overage on an ADF&G fish ticket at the time of delivery and immediately surrendered to the state. Proceeds from the sale of excess king crab shall be surrendered to the state.

(f) Except as provided in (a) - (e) of this section, when the biomass of legal males available for harvest is equal to or greater than 200,000 pounds, a competitive fishery may open.

(g) If multiple CFEC permit holders are registered to fish from the same vessel, the maximum number of king crab pots that may be operated may not exceed pot limits as set out under 5 AAC 34.125(b)(1).

(h) Based on inseason information, the commissioner may, by emergency order, close a fishing season.

(i) In this section,

(1) "legal males" means male red or blue king crab at least seven inches or greater in width of shell;

(2) "preseason biomass estimate" means the sum of surveyed and non-surveyed biomass estimates of legal male red and blue king crab present at the time of the preseason survey as estimated directly by the catch survey analysis method from annual pot survey data.

(j) The provisions of this section do not apply after January 24, 2028. (Eff. 6/24/93, Register 126; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 34.115(b) is amended to read:

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

(1) **Upper** Northern Area: **0 - 81,000** [0 - 145,000] pounds;

(2) **Lower Northern Area: 0 - 64,000 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. (In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81,

Register 78; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 7/23/88, Register 107; am 6/24/93, Register 126; am 11/6/96, Register 140; am 8/8/99, Register 151; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6/27/2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 34.125(b)(1)(A) is amended to read:

(A) **through January 24, 2028**, no more than 20 king crab pots when the guideline harvest level is **less than 399,999** [AT LEAST 200,000 BUT NOT MORE THAN 399,999] pounds;

(In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 7/25/82, Register 83; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 6/30/84, Register 90; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 12/14/86,

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

Register 100; am 7/23/88, Register 107; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 6/24/93, Register 126; am 3/15/96, Register 137; am 11/6/96, Register 140; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 34.126(b) is amended to read:

(b) If multiple CFEC permit holders are registered to fish from a vessel simultaneously for the **red, blue, or** golden king crab **fisheries** and Tanner crab fisheries, the tags are issued to the vessel for the duration of the fishing seasons. (Eff. 11/6/96, Register 140; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.632

5 AAC 34.128 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(c) During the commercial red, blue, or golden king crab fisheries, the operator of a vessel that is validly registered for the commercial red, blue or golden king crab fisheries may have on board the vessel, or in the water in fishing condition, not more than 30 groundfish pots as defined in 5 AAC 28.050(e) and 5 AAC 39.145(5), to harvest bait as described in 5 AAC 28.190. Red, blue, and golden king crab may not be legally retained while the vessel is fishing for bait and must be returned to the water unharmed. Buoys attached to pots used to harvest bait must have the word "LP-BAIT" on the top half of the buoy and be marked as set out under 5 AAC 28.050(b)(2). Pots used to harvest bait may be longlined and are exempt from the provisions of 5 AAC 28.050(f)(1).

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

(d) Fish retained for use as bait must be recorded on an ADF&G fish ticket as set out under 5 AAC 28.190(5). (Eff. 11/6/96, Register 140; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 8/8/99,

Register 151; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

Chapter 35. Tanner Crab Fishery.

5 AAC 35.110(a) is amended to read:

(a) Male Tanner crab may only be taken [ONLY] from 10:00 a.m. [12:00 NOON] on the date following the largest [WITH THE SMALLEST] Juneau tidal range between February 10 and February 17, as announced by emergency order, through May 1.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 35.110(b) is amended to read:

(b) A season opening may be delayed if the National Weather Service forecast for the major fishing areas in the Southeast Region contains freezing spray or gale force wind warnings of 35 knots and higher on the 4:00 a.m. forecast for the day before [PRECEDING] the start date and the following day, in which case the season opening in all sections of Registration Area A eligible for a season opening will be delayed 24 hours. Announcement [AND ANNOUNCEMENT] of a season opening [THIS] delay will be issued 24 hours before the start of the fishery. If freezing spray or [AFTER THE INITIAL DELAY] gale warnings continue regionwide after the initial delay, the season opening in all eligible sections may be delayed an additional 24 hours. A season opening delay may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis. For the purposes of this subsection, the corresponding National Weather Service forecast areas considered within the Southeast Region are as follows:

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

...

(In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81, Register 78; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 2/29/84, Register 92; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 12/14/86, Register 100; am 7/23/88, Register 107; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 9/29/96, Register 139; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 35.128(c) is amended to read:

(c) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 35.053(1), during the 14 days after the close of any portion of the commercial Tanner crab season in Registration Area A, a person or vessel that participated in a commercial Tanner crab fishery may operate commercial, subsistence, sport, or personal use pots in Tanner crab Registration Area A after the person or vessel

(1) puts [PUTTING] Tanner crab pots in storage, as set out under [SPECIFIED IN] 5 AAC 35.052; [,] and

(2) invalidates [, UNLESS THE REGISTRATION IS ALREADY INVALIDATED UNDER 5 AAC 35.020(k), AFTER INVALIDATING] the vessel's Tanner crab registration by contacting, in person, a local representative of the department, unless the registration is already invalid under 5 AAC 35.020(k).

5 AAC 35.128 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(d) During the commercial Tanner crab fishery, the operator of a vessel that is validly registered for the commercial Tanner crab fishery may have on board the vessel, or in the water in fishing condition, no more than 30 groundfish pots as defined in 5 AAC 28.050(e) and 5 AAC

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

39.145(5), to harvest bait as described in 5 AAC 28.190. Tanner crab may not be retained while the vessel is fishing for bait and must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. Buoys attached to the pots must have the word "LP-BAIT" on the top half of the buoy and be marked as set out under 5 AAC 28.050(b)(2). Pots used to harvest bait may be longlined and are exempt from the provisions of 5 AAC 28.050(f)(1).

(e) Fish retained for use as bait must be recorded on fish tickets as set out under 5 AAC 28.190(5). (Eff. 9/29/96, Register 139; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 8/8/99, Register 151; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

Chapter 38. Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishery.

5 AAC 38.076(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) Scallop Registration Area A (Southeastern Alaska) is Registration Area A as [.] described in 5 AAC 38.100, except for all waters of District 16 as described in 5 AAC 33.200(p) [5 AAC 31.105(p)];

5 AAC 38.076(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) Scallop Registration Area D (Yakutat) is Registration Area D as [.] described in 5 AAC 38.160, and all waters of District 16 as described in 5 AAC 33.200(p) [5 AAC 31.105(p)];

(Eff. 6/27/93, Register 126; am 7/23/93, Register 127; am 7/23/94, Register 131; am 9/12/97, Register 143; am 12/26/97, Register 144; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 7/31/2003, Register 167;

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

am 8/8/2003, Register 167; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am
6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 38.090(d) is amended to read:

(d) It is unlawful for any person [TO POSSESS] aboard a vessel registered to fish for miscellaneous shellfish to possess more than one species of miscellaneous shellfish at any one time, except that in Registration Area A, a vessel registered to fish for miscellaneous shellfish may possess both red and green sea urchins concurrently. (In effect before 1988;

am 4/15/94, Register 130; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.723 AS 16.05.920
AS 16.05.722 AS 16.05.901

5 AAC 38.105 is amended to read:

5 AAC 38.105. Description of Registration Area A districts and sections. Registration Area A districts and sections are as described in 5 AAC 33.200 [5 AAC 31.105]. (In effect before 1988; em am 4/30/91 - 8/27/91, Register 118; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am
6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 38.140(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(4) the department may, by emergency order, extend the sea cucumber season through April 30.

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

(Eff. 2/27/91, Register 117; am 4/15/94, Register 130; am 9/28/97, Register 143; am 12/26/97, Register 144; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 10/12/2000, Register 156; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 8/27/2016, Register 219; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 8/10/2018, Register 227; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 38.140(b)(3) to a semicolon.)))

5 AAC 38.142(l)(4) is amended to read:

(4) waters identified as a permitted mariculture site for the culture of geoduck.

5 AAC 38.142(p) is amended to read:

(p) During an open geoduck fishing period, no more than two CFEC geoduck permit holders may conduct fishing operations from, or deliver geoduck from, a vessel that is licensed and registered to commercially fish for geoduck. From 24 hours before, during, and for 24 hours after a fishing period, or when commercially harvested geoduck are on board the vessel, no more than three CFEC geoduck permit holders may be on board a vessel that is registered to commercially fish for geoduck. The commissioner may, by emergency order, modify the number of CFEC geoduck permit holders that may be on board or fish from a registered vessel to not more than four divers if the total weekly harvest limit is five hundred pounds or less. If more than two CFEC permit holders are permitted to be on board a vessel, only two CFEC geoduck permit holders may actively conduct fishing operations in the water at

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

the same time. (Eff. 10/12/2000, Register 156; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; em am 3/9/2005 - 7/6/2005, Register 174; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 40. Private Nonprofit Salmon Hatcheries.

5 AAC 40.042(a)(5)(A) is amended to read:

(A) for chum and king salmon: the waters of District 12 [WITHIN TWO NAUTICAL MILES OF THE BARANOF ISLAND SHORELINE] south of the latitude of South Point at 57° 16.28' N. lat., and north of 57° 06.76' [57° 06.83'] N. lat., and west of a line from a point offshore at 57° 16.28' N. lat., 134° 48.00' W. long., to a point offshore at 57° 06.76' N. lat., 134° 43.00' W. long., excluding the waters of Kelp Bay, will be open for harvest by the hatchery permit holder from 12:01 a.m. June 1 until 11:59 p.m. August 15;

(Eff. 4/14/82, Register 82; am 9/22/84, Register 91; am 4/23/94, Register 130; am 6/28/97, Register 142; am 6/14/2000, Register 154; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 2/16/2006, Register 177; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.10.440

Chapter 47. Southeast Alaska Area.

5 AAC 47.020(8)(A) is amended to read:

(A) pelagic rockfish: bag limit of three [FIVE] fish; possession limit of six [10] fish; no annual limit; no size limit;

5 AAC 47.020(8)(C)(i) is amended to read:

(i) [EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN (D) OF THIS PARAGRAPH,]
resident: bag limit of one fish; possession limit of two fish; no annual limit; no size limit;

5 AAC 47.020(8)(C)(ii) is amended to read:

(ii) nonresident: bag limit of one fish; possession limit of one fish; annual limit of one fish [NO OPEN SEASON; MAY NOT BE TAKEN OR POSSESSED];

5 AAC 47.020(8)(D) is repealed:

(D) repealed 6 / 27 / 2025;

5 AAC 47.020(16) is amended to read:

(16) shrimp: may only be taken from May 1 - February 28 [JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31 ONLY] under a permit issued by the department; a harvest recording form under 5 AAC 75.016 is required; bag and possession limit of three pounds or three quarts; no

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

annual limit; [.]

5 AAC 47.020(17)(A) is amended to read:

(A) resident: bag limit of six [FOUR] fish; possession limit of six [FOUR] fish; no annual limit; no size limit;

5 AAC 47.020 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(19) in waters of the exclusive economic zone, between three nautical miles and 200 nautical miles offshore, regulations shall be the same for state residents and nonresidents; if regulations differentiate between state residents and nonresidents, nonresident regulations apply to all anglers when sport fishing in the exclusive economic zone; unless otherwise specified in this title, resident harvest in state waters is exempt from annual limits. (Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 5/2/97, Register 142; am 8/16/97, Register 143; am 9/28/97, Register 143; am 5/25/2000, Register 154; am 5/19/2001, Register 158; am 6/1/2003, Register 166; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 6/21/2009, Register 190; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 10/18/2009, Register 192; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 6/1/2013, Register 206; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 47.020(18) to a semicolon.)))

5 AAC 47.021(d)(3)(C) is amended to read:

(C) snagging or attempting to snag is prohibited [WITHIN A 200-YARD

RADIUS SEAWARD OF ADF&G REGULATORY MARKERS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 200 FEET DOWNSTREAM OF THE AUKE CREEK WEIR]; a fish hooked anywhere other than the mouth must be released immediately back into the water;

5 AAC 47.021(i) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(6) Dungeness crab may not be taken in the waters of Thorne Bay west of a line from a point at 55° 39.92' N. lat., 132° 29.73' W. long., to a point located at 55° 39.80' N. lat., 132° 29.59' W. long.

(Eff. 6/1/2003, Register 166; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 7/26/2003, Register 167; em am 4/13/2005 - 8/10/2005, Register 174; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; add'l am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 5/12/2011, Register 198; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

((Publisher: please add a semicolon to the end of 5 AAC 47.021(i)(5).)))

5 AAC 47.022(c)(1)(C) is amended to read:

(C) [THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ESTABLISH, BY EMERGENCY ORDER,] the nonresident annual limit is one [FOR] king salmon 20 [28] inches or greater in length and does not count toward the nonresident annual harvest limit as set out under [SPECIFIED IN] 5 AAC 47.055; a harvest record is required for a

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

nonresident as **set out under** [SPECIFIED IN] 5 AAC 75.006;

(Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; em am 5/15/94 - 9/11/94, Register 130; em am 6/7/95 - 10/4/95, Register 134; em am 6/7/96 - 10/4/96, Register 139; am 5/2/97, Register 142; am 5/16/97, Register 142; am 5/25/97, Register 142; am 4/23/98, Register 146; am 5/25/2000, Register 154; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 5/19/2001, Register 158; am 6/1/2003, Register 166; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 47.023(b)(6)(A) is amended to read:

(A) **sport fishing for** [A] king salmon **is closed unless opened by emergency order as set out under 5 AAC 30.365** [28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH TAKEN BY A NONRESIDENT WILL NOT COUNT TOWARD THAT NONRESIDENT'S ANNUAL HARVEST LIMIT ESTABLISHED UNDER 5 AAC 47.055];

5 AAC 47.023(b)(6)(D) is amended to read:

(D) **sport fishing is closed within 50 yards of the Nine Mile Bridge on Forest Highway 10 from June 15 - August 15 unless 1,050 king salmon three ocean years of age or older have passed the Situk River weir** [UPSTREAM FROM THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE MIDDLE CABIN, KING SALMON MAY BE TAKEN ONLY FROM SEPTEMBER 1 - JUNE 30];

5 AAC 47.023(h)(1)(A) is amended to read:

(A) only unbaited, artificial lures may be used from November 16 - May 15 [NOVEMBER 16 - MAY 31];

5 AAC 47.023(h)(1)(C) is amended to read:

(C) king salmon may be taken as set out under 5 AAC 33.381 [FROM JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31; BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS, AS FOLLOWS:

(i) 28 INCHES OR GREATER IN LENGTH; BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT OF TWO FISH;

(ii) LESS THAN 28 INCHES IN LENGTH; BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT OF TWO FISH];

5 AAC 47.023(h)(1)(D) is repealed:

(D) repealed 6 / 27 / 2025;

5 AAC 47.023(h)(6) is repealed:

(6) repealed 6 / 27 / 2025;

5 AAC 47.023(i)(6)(B) is amended to read:

(B) sport fishing is allowed year-round [ONLY FROM SEPTEMBER 15 - MAY 31];

5 AAC 47.023(i)(6) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(E) the bag and possession limit for king salmon is as follows:

(i) the limits are two fish of any size;

(ii) a king salmon taken by a nonresident does not count toward the nonresident annual limit as set out under 5 AAC 47.055;

5 AAC 47.023(k)(5)(C) is repealed:

(C) repealed 6 / 27 / 2025;

5 AAC 47.023(k) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(12) in Neck Lake,

(A) only unbaited, artificial lures may be used;

(B) rainbow trout and cutthroat trout, in combination, must be no less than 11 inches and no greater than 22 inches in length; and

(C) the bag and possession limit for rainbow trout and cutthroat trout, in combination, is four fish. (Eff. 6/1/2003, Register 166; am 7/18/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 12/31/2006, Register 180; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 5/12/2011, Register 198; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 47.023(k)(11) to a semicolon)))

5 AAC 47.055 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 47.055. Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan. (a) The

commissioner shall establish, by emergency order, the king salmon sport fish bag and possession limits and other necessary management measures based on the allocation to the sport fishery as set out under 5 AAC 29.060. The bag and possession limits and other management measures established by the commissioner remain in effect until March 31 of the following year.

(b) The objectives of the Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan are to

(1) manage the sport fishery to achieve the annual sport allocation of king salmon as set out under 5 AAC 29.060;

(2) establish bag, possession, annual limits, and other regulatory action inseason by emergency order, to increase or decrease harvest opportunity to achieve but not exceed the king salmon allocation to the sport fishery; and

(3) prioritize providing uninterrupted resident harvest opportunity in state waters; if the department projects that inseason regulatory action is required to keep the sport fishery from exceeding the sport fishery allocation, the department shall first reduce bag and annual limits or modify season dates for nonresidents.

(c) The bag and possession limits for resident anglers will be established according to the king salmon allocation to the sport fishery as set out under 5 AAC 29.060 as follows:

(1) when the sport allocation is greater than 55,420 fish, the resident bag and possession limit is three king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(2) when the sport allocation is between 34,302 and 55,420 fish, the resident bag and possession limit is two king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length;

(3) when the sport allocation is less than 34,302 fish, the resident bag and possession limit is one king salmon, 28 inches or greater in length; and

(4) from October 1 through March 31, a resident sport fish angler may use two

rods when fishing for king salmon; a person using two rods under this paragraph may only retain salmon.

(d) The department shall establish nonresident management measures to achieve approximately 65 percent of the total sport fishery allocation between January 1 - June 30 and the remainder of the total sport allocation between July 1 and December 31 while prioritizing uninterrupted sport fishing opportunity.

(e) The commissioner may, by emergency order, establish that the nonresident harvest and annual limits for king salmon under this section do not apply in a hatchery terminal harvest area.

(f) A harvest record under 5 AAC 75.006 is required for nonresidents.

(g) The commissioner may require reporting as necessary to obtain the information required to implement the management plan under this section. (Eff. 4/15/94, Register 130; am 5/2/97, Register 142; am 5/25/2000, Register 154; am 6/1/2003, Register 166; em am 4/13/2005 - 8/10/2005, Register 174; em am 5/3/2005 - 8/30/2005, Register 174; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/1/2008, Register 186; am 5/31/2009, Register 190; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6/28/2019, Register 230; am 10/16/2022, Register 244; am 4/28/2024, Register 250; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.270

5 AAC 47 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 47.070. Pelagic shelf rockfish delegation of authority and provisions for management. If the commissioner determines that the pelagic rockfish sport fishing regulations must be modified to keep sport harvest within sustainable levels, the commissioner shall consider

restrictions to nonresident bag, possession, or annual limits before restrictions to the resident sport fishery. Restrictions to the resident sport fishery may only occur if the resident sport fishery harvest has exceeded 50 percent of the total sport harvest for two consecutive years. The commissioner may, by emergency order, require one or more of the following management measures:

- (1) reducing the bag and possession limits for nonresident anglers;
- (2) prohibiting charter operators and crew members from retaining pelagic rockfish while clients are on board the vessel;
- (3) imposing annual limits for pelagic rockfish for nonresident anglers;
- (4) reducing the bag and possession limits for resident anglers;
- (5) imposing annual limits for pelagic rockfish for resident anglers;
- (6) imposing time and area closures. (Eff. 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 77. Personal Use Fishery.

5 AAC 77.660(1) is amended to read:

- (1) **shrimp may only be taken from May 1 through February 28; except**
[EXCEPT] as provided in (7) and (8) of this section, there **are** [IS NO CLOSED SEASON
AND] no bag and possession limits;
(Eff. 7/1/86, Register 99; am 6/25/89, Register 110; am 4/1/94, Register 129; am 9/28/97,
Register 143; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 6/3/2000, Register 154; am 7/18/2003, Register 167;
am 8/8/2003, Register 167; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am

Register 254, July 2025 FISH AND GAME

6/5/2016, Register 218; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 77.664(b) is amended to read:

(b) Except as specified in (e) of this section, through January 24, 2028, the daily bag and possession limit is three male crab per person; if the preseason biomass estimate of legal male [REGIONWIDE HARVESTABLE BIOMASS OF MATURE] red and blue king crab is less than 50 percent of the median surveyed and non-surveyed biomass estimate of legal males [BELOW 200,000 POUNDS], the commissioner may, by emergency order, reduce the bag and possession limit of red and blue king crab.

5 AAC 77.664 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(i) In this section, "legal male," with respect to red or blue king crab, means male red or blue king crab at least seven inches or greater in width of shell. (Eff. 7/1/86, Register 99; am 7/1/95, Register 134; am 7/1/96, Register 138; am 8/8/99, Register 151; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 7/29/2009, Register 191; am 9/27/2009, Register 191; am 5/11/2012, Register 202; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

The introductory language of 5 AAC 77.674 is amended to read:

5 AAC 77.674. Personal use groundfish [BOTTOMFISH] fishery. In the personal use taking of groundfish [BOTTOMFISH],

...

5 AAC 77.674(1) is amended to read:

(1) **groundfish** [BOTTOMFISH] may be taken at any time, except lingcod may not be taken from December 1 through May 15;

5 AAC 77.674(2) is amended to read:

(2) **groundfish** [EXCEPT SABLEFISH, BOTTOMFISH] may be taken for personal use only by longline or hand held line, **except that sablefish, Pacific cod, and rockfish, including thornyhead rockfish, may be taken for personal use only by longline, hand held line, or pot gear;** for all **groundfish** [BOTTOMFISH], unattended gear must be marked as **set out under** [DESCRIBED IN] 5 AAC 77.010(d);

5 AAC 77.674(3)(A)(ii) is amended to read:

(ii) the waters off Cape Edgecumbe enclosed by a box defined as 56° 55.5' N. lat. and 56° 57' N. lat., and 135° 54' W. long. and 135° 57' W. long., are closed to fishing for all species of **groundfish** [BOTTOMFISH];

5 AAC 77.674(4) is amended to read:

(4) **a vessel or** a person on board a vessel from which **personal use fishing gear** [A LONGLINE] was used to take **groundfish** [BOTTOMFISH] for personal use in the Northern Southeast Inside Subdistrict or the Southern Southeast Inside Subdistrict

(A) may not operate commercial fishing gear to take groundfish for commercial purposes from that vessel until all groundfish taken in the personal use

fishery have been offloaded from that vessel; and

(B) is subject to the restrictions in 5 AAC 28.180;

5 AAC 77.674(5) is amended to read:

(5) groundfish [BOTTOMFISH] taken under personal use regulations may not be used as bait in a commercial fishery;

5 AAC 77.674(6)(E)(ii) is amended to read:

(ii) may [NOT] be longlined; and

5 AAC 77.674(6)(E)(iii) is amended to read:

(iii) must have, for each pot, at least two circular escape rings with a minimum inside diameter of three and one-half [THREE AND THREE-FOURTHS] inches installed on opposing vertical or sloping walls and must have individual tunnel eye openings with perimeters of 36 inches or less. (Eff. 6/25/89, Register 110; am 4/23/98, Register 146; am 6/3/2000, Register 154; am 3/11/2001, Register 157; am 5/26/2006, Register 178; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 5/9/2015, Register 214; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 6 / 27 / 2025, Register 254)

Authority: AS 16.05.251