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Lieutenant Governor
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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
ALASKA**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Shellene Hutter, Program Coordinator 2
Department of Fish and Game

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

DATE: June 10, 2025

RE: Filed Permanent Regulations: Board of Fisheries

Board of Fisheries regulations re: Statewide subsistence, sport, commercial, personal use
(5 AAC 01.320)

Attorney General File:	2025200175
Regulation Filed:	6/10/2025
Effective Date:	7/10/2025
Print:	255, October 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

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Juneau, Alaska 99811
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June 9, 2025

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

Re: *5 AAC 01.320 - 5 AAC 77.519: Board of Fisheries - Statewide subsistence,
sport, commercial, personal use*
Our file: 2025200175

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 statewide subsistence, sport, commercial, and personal use fisheries.

Because our technical corrections change the page count of the regulations, we respectfully request that your office handwrite the correct number of pages (30) 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.

Hon. Nancy Dahlstrom
Re: 2025200175

June 9, 2025
Page 2 of 2

The November 3, 2024, public notice, the February 5, 2025, supplemental public notice, and the April 30, 2025, certification of adoption order all state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.060 is not required.

We have made some technical corrections 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**
Digitally signed by
Rebecca C. Polizzotto
Date: 2025.06.09
14:40:42 -08'00'

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

RCP/SCW/hjh

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

Steven C. Weaver, Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

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

The attached ³⁰28 pages of regulations, changes to 5 AAC for subsistence, sport, commercial and personal use fisheries occurring statewide are certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted at its public hearing held from March 11th – 16th in Anchorage, 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: 4/30/2025
Anchorage, Alaska

DocuSigned by:
Doug Vincent-Lang
32E3FEFE58284DB...

Douglas S. Vincent-Lang, Commissioner
Department of Fish and Game

April Simpson for

FILING CERTIFICATION

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

June 10, 2025 at 12:35 p.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: July 10, 2025.

Register: 255, October 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.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 01.320(b) is amended to read:

(b) Outside the boundaries of any district and within the Naknek, Alagnak, Kvichak, and Wood River sockeye salmon special harvest areas, salmon may only be taken by set gillnet, except that salmon may also be taken by dip nets in the waters described in 5 AAC 01.310(d) if fishing other than from a vessel, and salmon may also be taken as follows:

...

(In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am/readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 4/14/95, Register 134; am 5/14/98, Register 146; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 6/17/2001, Register 158; am 6/22/2001, Register 158; am 3/30/2007, Register 181; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 4/9/2010, Register 194; am 4/16/2016, Register 218; am 5/31/2019, Register 230; am 4/16/2023, Register 246; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

Chapter 02. Subsistence Shellfish Fishery.

5 AAC 02.210(5) is amended to read:

(5) a person may only take shrimp [ONLY] from May 1 [APRIL 15] through September 15;

5 AAC 02.210 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(8) a vessel may only have one shrimp pot in addition to the legal limit of shrimp pot gear. (Eff. 7/25/82, Register 83; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 7/12/86, Register 99; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 7/3/94, Register 130; am 2/16/96, Register 137; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 02.210(7) to a semicolon.)))

5 AAC 02.315 is amended to read:

5 AAC 02.315. Subsistence Dungeness crab fishery. In the Cook Inlet Area that is outside of the nonsubsistence area described in 5 AAC 99.015(a)(3), in the subsistence taking of Dungeness crab, [A PERSON MAY NOT TAKE DUNGENESS CRAB FOR SUBSISTENCE PURPOSES.]

(1) Dungeness crab may only be taken from July 1 through March 31;

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

(3) the daily bag and possession limit is 12 male Dungeness crab;

(4) a pot used to take Dungeness crab under this section must have at least two escape rings that each are not less than four and three-eighths inches, inside diameter; the escape rings must be located on opposite sides of the pot and the upper half of the vertical pane of the pot; not more than one pot or one ring net per person with a maximum of three pots or rings nets per vessel may be used to take Dungeness crab; and

(5) a person must obtain a subsistence crab permit from the department before harvesting Dungeness crab in the Cook Inlet Area. (In effect before 1982; am 7/25/82, Register 83; readopt 5/15/93, Register 126; am 3/15/2008, Register 185; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251 AS 16.05.258

Chapter 06. Bristol Bay Area.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 06.200(b) is amended to read:

(b) Naknek-Kvichak District: all waters of Kvichak Bay north and east of a line from 58° 43.73' N. lat., 157° 42.71' W. long., to 58° 36.77' N. lat., 157° 15.82' W. long., and the Naknek River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area, the Kvichak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area, and the Alagnak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area,

• • •

(In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 6/10/90, Register 114; am 6/19/92, Register 122; am 5/14/98, Register 146; am 6/3/2001, Register 158; am 4/9/2004, Register 170; am 3/30/2007, Register 181; am 5/4/2007, Register 182; am 6/13/2007, Register 182; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 4/9/2010, Register

Register 255, October 2025 FISH AND GAME

194; am 4/16/2016, Register 218; am 5/31/2019, Register 230; am 4/16/2023, Register 246; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 06.320(c)(2)(B) is amended to read:

(B) Naknek-Kvichak District in 5 AAC 06.360(g) **and 5 AAC 06.374(g);**

and

(In effect before 1985; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 6/10/90, Register 114; am 6/19/92, Register 122; am 4/9/95, Register 134; am 5/24/96, Register 138; am 5/14/98, Register 146; am 6/3/2001, Register 158; am 4/9/2010, Register 194; am 2/23/2014, Register 209; am 5/31/2019, Register 230; am 4/16/2023, Register 246; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 06.350(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) those waters northeast of a line from a point near Graveyard Point at 58° 52.10' N. lat., 157° 00.80' W. long., to a point on the northwest shore of Kvichak Bay at 58° 53.37' N. lat., 157° 04.26' W. long., except that the commissioner may, by emergency order, open the Alagnak River **Sockeye Salmon** Special Harvest Area as provided in 5 AAC 06.373 **and the Kvichak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area as provided in 5 AAC 06.374;**

(In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 6/10/90, Register 114; am 6/19/92, Register 122; am 5/14/98, Register 146; am 6/3/2001, Register 158; am 12/29/2002, Register 164; am 4/9/2004, Register

Register 255, October 2025 FISH AND GAME

170; am 4/4/2013, Register 206; am 5/8/2013, Register 206; am 5/24/2015, Register 214; am 4/16/2016, Register 218; am 6/26/2016, Register 218; am 5/31/2019, Register 230; am

7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 06.370(b) is amended to read:

(b) Except when fishing as a crewmember, a CFEC salmon drift gillnet permit holder intending to transfer to and fish in a new district for which the permit holder is not registered shall register the permit holder and the vessel that the permit holder will use to take salmon for the new district at least 48 hours before fishing in the new district. Reregistration is accomplished by the permit holder or the permit holder's authorized agent completing a form provided by the department and submitting the completed form [, IN PERSON,] to a local representative of the department in person or electronically on the department's Internet website. The 48-hour district transfer notification period starts when the reregistration form is signed by the local representative of the department or when the permit holder receives the computerized acceptance notification. The drift gillnet permit holder and the drift gillnet vessel may not fish in the original district during the 48-hour notification period. The notification period may be reduced by commissioner's announcement. District reregistration is not required after 9:00 a.m. July 17, except in the Ugashik District, as set out under [SPECIFIED IN] 5 AAC 06.366(d)(4), the Naknek-Kvichak District, as set out under [SPECIFIED IN] 5 AAC 06.360(g) and 5 AAC 06.374(g), and the Egegik District, as set out under [SPECIFIED IN] 5 AAC 06.359(f).

(In effect before 1983; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 4/2/88, Register 105; am 6/10/90, Register 114; am 6/19/92, Register 122; am 4/9/95, Register 134; am 5/24/96, Register 138; em am 5/30/97 - 9/26/97, Register 142; am 5/14/98, Register 146; am 6/23/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2001, Register 158; am 4/9/2004, Register 170; am 6/21/2009, Register 190; am 4/9/2010, Register 194; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 4/4/2013, Register 206; em am 7/26/2015 - 11/22/2015, Register 215; am 4/16/2016, Register 218; am 4/16/2023, Register 246; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 06 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 06.374. Kvichak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management

Plan. (a) The goal of the Kvichak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management Plan is to achieve the Naknek River sockeye salmon spawning escapement goal while providing opportunities to harvest Kvichak and Alagnak River salmon stocks that are in excess of spawning escapement goals. The intent of the Board of Fisheries is that salmon in the Naknek-Kvichak District be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times, and locations of those fisheries, using the best biological management techniques and practices. The plan has been adopted to provide management alternatives that the department may use if differences in salmon run strengths would preclude the achievement of the goal of the plan using only the fisheries that have historically harvested those salmon.

(b) The Kvichak River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area consists of the waters of the Kvichak River upstream of a line from 58° 52.78' N. lat., 157° 00.63' W. long., to 58° 54.02'

N. lat., 157° 03.99' W. long., to a line located below the mouth of the Alagnak River at 58°

59.84' N. lat., 156° 51.91' W. long., to 59° 00.26' N. lat., 156° 53.36' W. long.

(c) If the department projects that the sockeye salmon escapement into the Kvichak River will exceed 4,000,000 fish and the Naknek River escapement projection is one or more days behind the schedule determined by the department for reaching the lower bound of the escapement goal, the commissioner may open, by emergency order, the special harvest area to the drift gillnet and set gillnet fisheries. The department shall, to the extent practicable, manage the special harvest area to minimize the harvest of king salmon.

(d) The drift gillnet and set gillnet fisheries will open separately, with a seasonal ratio of three drift gillnet fishing periods to every one set gillnet fishing period. The first fishing period will open to set gillnets.

(e) The following provisions apply to set gillnet fishing in the special harvest area:

(1) not more than 37 and one-half fathoms of set gillnet may be used to take salmon;

(2) a set gillnet may not be set or operated within 150 feet of another set gillnet;

(3) beyond 500 feet from shore, gear associated with set gillnet fishing must be removed when the gear is not being used to fish in the special harvest area;

(4) a set gillnet running line may not be in the water during a drift gillnet fishing period;

(5) set gillnet fishing in the special harvest area is exempt from 5 AAC 06.331(i), (m), (o), and (p);

(6) a set gillnet may be set and operated seaward of another set gillnet;

(7) a vessel may not have more than 75 fathoms of set gillnet on board the vessel.

(f) The following provisions apply to drift gillnet fishing in the special harvest area:

- (1) not more than 75 fathoms of drift gillnet may be used to take salmon;
- (2) a CFEC permit holder may not use more than one gillnet to take salmon at any

time;

- (3) a vessel may not have more than 150 fathoms of drift gillnet on board the vessel.

(g) Beginning July 17, 2025, when the Naknek-Kvichak District is open to commercial fishing in the special harvest area the commissioner may establish, by emergency order, new fishing periods other than the periods set out under 5 AAC 06.320(c), during which the requirements for reregistration and the 48-hour transfer notification period set out under 5 AAC 06.370 will apply. (Eff. 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 18. Kodiak Area.

5 AAC 18.331(e)(6) is amended to read:

(6) a [NO] single set gillnet may not be more than 150 fathoms in length, except that in the Central Section of the Northwest Kodiak District, a single set gillnet may not be more than 175 fathoms in length;

5 AAC 18.331(e)(7) is amended to read:

(7) a joint venture may operate not [NO] more than three set gillnets, with not [NO] more than 300 fathoms of gillnet gear in the aggregate, except that in the Central Section

of the Northwest Kodiak District, the aggregate length may be not more than 350 fathoms in length; and

(In effect before 1983; am 4/16/83, Register 86; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 5/31/85, Register 94; am 6/2/88, Register 106; am 4/19/90, Register 114; am 7/23/94, Register 131; am 10/18/96, Register 140; am 5/4/2002, Register 162; am 4/9/2005, Register 174; am 4/25/2008, Register 186; am 5/1/2014, Register 210; am 4/15/2017, Register 222; am 6/5/2020, Register 234; am 4/21/2024, Register 250; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 21. Cook Inlet Area.

5 AAC 21.382(g)(5)(B) is amended to read:

(B) openings may occur outside of specified openings in this section based on abundance of sockeye salmon **from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, unless closed by emergency order** [, AS ANNOUNCED BY EMERGENCY ORDER, FOR NOT MORE THAN THREE 12-HOUR PERIODS PER WEEK];

5 AAC 21.382(g)(5)(E) is amended to read:

(E) fishing with a dip net may occur from a vessel or from shore; fishing from shore must occur at the location of a shore fishery tract identified in the recorded plat for that **lease under** AS 38.05.082 **or City of Kenai shore fishery** lease; nothing in this subsection affects or changes the terms or conditions of **a lease and its lessee under** [AN] AS 38.05.082 **or a City of Kenai shore fishery** lease and its lessee; [.]

5 AAC 21.382(g)(5) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(F) the number of king or coho salmon that are released must be recorded
on an ADF&G fish ticket under the disposition code for live release.

(Eff. 6/8/2024, Register 250; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 27. Herring Fishery.

5 AAC 27.510 is amended to read:

5 AAC 27.510. Fishing seasons and periods for Kodiak Area. (a) Unless otherwise provided [FOR] by emergency order, herring may be taken during the **A, B, and C** sac roe season from April 1 through **February 28** [JUNE 30,] as follows:

(1) fishing periods for purse seines are from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.;

(2) from April 2 through June 30, the fishing periods for gillnets are from 12:00 **p.m.** [NOON] on even-numbered days until 12:00 **p.m.** [NOON] on odd-numbered days;

(3) **in the A season, herring may be taken from April 1 through June 30**
[REPEALED 4/9/2005];

(4) **in the B season, herring may be taken from July 1 through October 25;**

(5) in the C season, herring may be taken from December 1 through
January 10;

(6) [(4)] after April 30, a CFEC permit holder must register with the department before participating in the sac roe herring fishery.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by emergency order, herring [HERRING] may be taken during the food and bait season from October 26 through February 28 as follows:

(1) in the A season, herring may be taken from October 26 through November 30;

(2) in the B season, herring may be taken from January 11 through February 28; [SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28 ONLY DURING FISHING PERIODS ESTABLISHED BY EMERGENCY ORDER.]

(3) a [A] CFEC permit holder must register with the department before participating in the food and bait fishery. (In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 3/30/96, Register 137; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 5/29/99, Register 150; am 4/16/2000, Register 154; am 4/9/2005, Register 174; am 4/25/2008, Register 186; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 6/5/2020, Register 234; am 4/21/2024, Register 250; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 27.525(a) is amended to read:

(a) From April 1 through July 1 [JULY 31], a purse seine may not exceed 18 fathoms stretch measure in depth or 100 fathoms in length. The depth shall be determined by using a stretch measure of the web from the cork line to the bottom of the net, including [ANY] lines that hang below the lead line.

5 AAC 27.525(c) is amended to read:

(c) From **July 1** [AUGUST 1] through February 28, a purse seine may not be more than 1,625 meshes in depth, including meshes used as chafing gear, or more than 150 fathoms in length.

(In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 4/7/90, Register 114; am 4/14/93, Register 126; am 3/16/96, Register 137; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 5/29/99, Register 150; am 4/16/2000, Register 154; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

5 AAC 27.535(b) is amended to read:

(b) The department shall establish guideline harvest levels for the herring food and bait fisheries for the Kodiak Area, which may not exceed 20 [10] percent of the guideline harvest level of that section in the previous sac roe season. The Shuyak Island, Offshore West Afognak, Outer Uganik, Offshore Uyak, Hallo Bay, Outer Kukak, and Missak Sections may not open for the food and bait fishery.

5 AAC 27.535(e)(1)(C) is repealed:

(C) repealed 7 / 10 / 2025;

5 AAC 27.535 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(f) 1,000 tons of the sac roe herring guideline harvest level shall be reserved for the C season as set out under 5 AAC 27.510(a).

(g) The sac roe herring B season as set out under 5 AAC 27.510(a) shall begin on July 1. Up to 35 percent of the unharvested sac roe herring A season guideline harvest level shall be rolled into the B season unless the department determines that the available biomass assessed in the A season is not large enough to support an exploitation of at least 10 percent.

(h) The sac roe herring C as set out under 5 AAC 27.510(a) season shall begin on December 1 with a guideline harvest level of 1,000 tons. Unharvested guideline harvest levels from the A and B season shall be rolled into the C season unless the department determines the available biomass assessed in the A season is not large enough to support an exploitation of at least 10 percent. (In effect before 1982; am 4/14/82, Register 82; am 5/11/85, Register 94; am 5/31/85, Register 94; am 6/2/88, Register 106; am 4/14/93, Register 126; am 3/30/96, Register 137; am 5/29/99, Register 150; am 4/16/2000, Register 154; am 3/8/2002, Register 161; am 5/4/2002, Register 162; am 4/9/2005, Register 174; am 4/25/2008, Register 186; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 6/5/2020, Register 234; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 31. Shrimp Fishery.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 31.210(a) is amended to read:

(a) In the waters of the Inside District west of a line from Middle Point at 60° 20.00' N. lat., 147° 00.00' [147°] W. long., north to a point at 60° 40.00' N. lat., 147° 00.00' [147°] W. long., then northeast to the Coast Guard marker light on Goose Island at 60° 42.78' N. lat., 146° 43.63' W. long., to a point on Knowles Head at 60° 41.00' N. lat., 146° 37.50' W. long., shrimp may be taken from May 1 [APRIL 15] through September 15, as established by emergency order. Fishing in this area will be rotated on a tri-annual basis between the following waters:

...

(In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81, Register 78; am 7/25/82, Register 83; am 12/29/84, Register 92; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 7/12/86, Register 99; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 7/23/94, Register 131; am 9/12/97, Register 143; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 5/24/2015, Register 214; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am

7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 31.214 is amended to read:

5 AAC 31.214. Shrimp pot guideline harvest level for Registration Area E. In the waters described in 5 AAC 31.210(a), the commercial spot shrimp fishery may only open if the estimated biomass is at least 40 percent of K, as set out under 5 AAC 55.055(d) [THE ESTIMATED TOTAL ALLOWABLE HARVEST FOR THE WATERS DESCRIBED IN 5 AAC 31.210(a) MUST BE MORE THAN 110,000 POUNDS OF SPOT SHRIMP BY ROUND WEIGHT BEFORE A COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY MAY BE OPENED]. The guideline harvest level for the commercial pot gear fishery in the waters described in 5 AAC 31.210(a) is 40 percent of the total allowable harvest for the area. The department will, to the extent practicable, manage the fishery to allow **not** [NO] more than 50 percent of the guideline harvest level to be taken from any one statistical area. The commissioner will open and close fishing seasons by emergency order, during which pot limits, time, or area may be adjusted to achieve the 50 percent statistical area harvest target. (Eff. 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 5/24/2015, Register 214; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

Chapter 32. Dungeness Crab Fishery.

The introductory language of 5 AAC 32.053(b) is amended to read:

(b) Except as provided in (e) **and (f)** of this section, a person may not participate in a commercial Dungeness crab fishery in a Dungeness crab registration area if the person

...

5 AAC 32.053(e) is amended to read:

(e) The provisions of (b) of this section do not apply to a person or vessel participating in the commercial Pacific cod fisheries described in 5 AAC 28.467 (Kodiak Area), 5 AAC 28.537 (Chignik Area), [OR] 5 AAC 28.577 (South Alaska Peninsula Area), **5 AAC 28.647 (Aleutian Islands Subdistrict), or 5 AAC 28.648 (Dutch Harbor Subdistrict).**

5 AAC 32.053 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(f) The provisions of (b) - (d) of this section do not apply to a person or vessel participating in commercial sablefish fisheries in Registration Area J. (Eff. 5/8/98, Register 146; am 5/31/98, Register 146; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 32.410(a) is amended to read:

5 AAC 32.410. Fishing seasons for Registration Area J. (a) [IN THE KODIAK, CHIGNIK, ALASKA PENINSULA, AND ALEUTIAN DISTRICTS, MALE] Dungeness crab may be only taken or possessed [ONLY] from 12:00 p.m. [NOON] May 1 until 11:59 p.m. October 31. [, EXCEPT THAT IN THE KODIAK, CHIGNIK, ALASKA PENINSULA, AND ALEUTIAN DISTRICTS, MALE DUNGENESS CRAB MAY BE TAKEN OR POSSESSED ONLY FROM 12:00 NOON MAY 1 UNTIL 11:59 P.M. OCTOBER 31, EXCEPT THAT IN THE WATERS OF THE KODIAK DISTRICT SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE OF BOOT POINT AT 56° 49.98' N. LAT., AND EAST OF LONGITUDE OF BOOT POINT AT 153° 46.10' W. LONG. AND WATERS SOUTH OF THE LATITUDE OF CAPE IKOLIK AT 57° 17.40' N. LAT., AND WEST OF THE LONGITUDE OF BOOT POINT AT 153° 46.10' W. LONG., MALE DUNGENESS CRAB MAY BE TAKEN OR POSSESSED ONLY FROM 12:00 NOON JUNE 15 UNTIL 11:59 P.M. OCTOBER 31].

5 AAC 32.410(b) is repealed:

(b) Repealed 7 / 10 / 2025.

5 AAC 32.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(c) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, in the waters of the Kodiak District south of the latitude of Boot Point at 56° 49.98' N. lat., and east of longitude of Boot Point at 153° 46.10' W. long., and waters south of the latitude of Cape Ikolik at 57° 17.40' N. lat., and west of the longitude of Boot Point at 153° 46.10' W. long., Dungeness crab may be taken or possessed only from 12:00 p.m. June 15 until 11:59 p.m. October 31. (In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81,

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Register 78; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 9/12/97, Register 143; am 7/31/2003, Register 167; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 7/1/2015, Register 214; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 32.440 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 32.440. Registration Area J inspection points. (a) Unless required under (b) of this section, a vessel fishing for Dungeness crab in Registration Area J is not required to undergo a vessel inspection as set out under 5 AAC 32.030.

(b) The commissioner, by public announcement, may require that a vessel fishing for Dungeness crab in Registration Area J be inspected as set out under 5 AAC 32.030.

(c) If a vessel inspection is required under (b) of this section, the inspection points for Registration Area J are at Kodiak, Sand Point, and Dutch Harbor, and at other locations that may be specified by the commissioner. (In effect before 1988; am 5/8/98, Register 146; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 34. King Crab Fishery.

5 AAC 34 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 34.614. Aleutian Islands State-Waters Golden King Crab Management Plan.

(a) The Aleutian Islands State-Waters Golden King Crab Management Plan governs the harvest of golden king crab in state waters of Registration Area O, east of 169° 00.00' W. long.

(b) Male golden king crab may be taken from 12:00 p.m. September 1 through 11:59 p.m. April 30, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

(c) Harvest of golden king crab in the state waters of Registration Area O, east of 169° 00.00' W. long., may not exceed 50,000 pounds of golden king crab.

(d) A vessel registered to take golden king crab may not be longer than 58 feet in overall length.

(e) Golden king crab may only be taken with king crab pots as set out under 5 AAC 34.625(b)(1). Pots may not be longlined. Each pot must be individually buoyed and marked.

(f) The total number of pots allowed in the fishery is 400. The department will establish the individual vessel pot limit by dividing the 400 total pot limit by the number of vessels that register before the season opens. Not more than 90 pots per vessel are allowed.

(g) The registration deadline is August 1. A vessel must register with the department not later than August 1 to participate in the fishery. Before a vessel may be registered under this section, the vessel operator must

(1) obtain a CFEC interim-use permit for king crab that includes the vessel's ADF&G license plate number; and

(2) file a registration form with the department; the registration form must

(A) identify the vessel and the vessel operator; and

(B) be submitted to the Dutch Harbor or Kodiak department office in person or by United States mail, electronic mail, or facsimile transmission.

(h) During the state waters season,

(1) not more than 90 pots may be operated from a validly registered vessel;

(2) pots may only be operated to take golden king crab from 8:00 a.m. to 7:59 p.m. daily;

(3) a vessel owner or operator must report the following to a local department representative by telephone, electronic mail, or radio, as specified on the vessel's registration form:

(A) the number of pot lifts from the vessel in the previous 24-hour reporting period;

(B) the number of crab retained on the vessel during the previous 24-hour reporting period;

(C) other information that the commissioner determines is necessary for the management and conservation of the fishery. (Eff. 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060

AS 16.05.251

Chapter 35. Tanner Crab Fishery.

5 AAC 35.408(d) is amended to read:

(d) The noncommercial Tanner crab fisheries in the Cook Inlet Area will be managed as provided in **5 AAC 58.022(a)(11)(B)** [5 AAC 58.022(11)(A)] and 5 AAC 02.325(a) when the most recent [CONSECUTIVE THREE-YEAR AVERAGE OF] legal male stock abundance estimated from the Kachemak Bay trawl survey is greater than or equal to 200,000 crab [AND THE ANNUAL ESTIMATE FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR IS AT LEAST 100,000 CRAB]. The harvest rate is not expected to exceed approximately 10 percent of legal male Tanner crab abundance managed under this section.

5 AAC 35.408(e) is amended to read:

(e) The noncommercial Tanner crab fisheries in the Cook Inlet Area will be managed as provided in **5 AAC 58.022(a)(11)(B)** [5 AAC 58.022(11)(B)] and 5 AAC 02.325(b) in the absence of a trawl survey, or if the most recent [CONSECUTIVE THREE-YEAR AVERAGE OF] legal male stock abundance estimated from the Kachemak Bay trawl survey is less than 200,000 crab [OR THE ANNUAL ESTIMATE FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR IS BELOW 100,000 CRAB]. The harvest rate is not expected to exceed approximately 10 percent of legal male Tanner crab abundance managed under this section. (Eff. 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 6/27/2014, Register 210; am 7/22/2017, Register 223; am 6/21/2020, Register 234; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 35.525(b)(1) is amended to read:

(1) to permit the escapement of undersize *C. bairdi* Tanner crab, pots used to take *C. bairdi* Tanner crab in

(A) Registration Area J, except the Bering Sea **and Kodiak Districts** [DISTRICT], must have at least one-third of one vertical surface of the pot composed of not less than six and three-quarter inch stretched mesh webbing or have **not** [NO] less than four circular escape rings of **not** [NO] less than five inches inside diameter installed on the vertical surface of the pot;

(B) the Bering Sea District, must have at least one-third of one vertical surface of the pot composed of not less than six and one-half inch stretched mesh webbing or have **not** [NO] less than four circular escape rings of **not** [NO] less than four

and one-half inches inside diameter installed in a manner on the vertical surface of the pot so that the bottom of a ring is **not** [NO] higher on the vertical surface than the first full mesh from the bottom of the pot; [AND]

(C) the Kodiak District, if they are rectangular and pyramid pots, must have at least one-third of one vertical surface of the pot composed of not less than six and three-quarter inch stretched mesh webbing; cone pots must have at least one-third of one vertical surface of the pot composed of not less than six and three-quarter inch stretched mesh webbing or have not less than eight circular escape rings of not less than five inches inside diameter installed on the vertical surface of the pot; and

5 AAC 35.525(c)(1) is amended to read:

(1) in the Kodiak District, **not** [WHEN THE GUIDELINE HARVEST LEVEL FOR *C. BAIRDI* TANNER CRAB IS

(A) LESS THAN 5,000,000 POUNDS, AN AGGREGATE OF NO] more than 20 pots may be operated from a validly registered Tanner crab vessel;

[(B) AT LEAST 5,000,000 POUNDS, AN AGGREGATE OF NO MORE THAN 30 POTS MAY BE OPERATED FROM A VALIDLY REGISTERED TANNER CRAB VESSEL;]

(In effect before 1981; am 6/28/81, Register 78; am 7/25/82, Register 83; am 6/30/83, Register 86; am 12/29/84, Register 92; am 7/14/85, Register 95; am 4/18/86, Register 98; am 7/12/86, Register 99; em am 3/16/88 - 7/13/88, Register 106; em am 6/23/88 - 10/20/88, Register 107; am 7/23/88, Register 107; am 9/19/90, Register 115; am 6/19/92, Register 122; em am 11/13/92 -

3/12/93, Register 124; em am 12/17/92 - 4/16/93, Register 125; em am 3/26/93 - 7/23/93, Register 126; am 6/24/93, Register 126; am 9/29/96, Register 139; am 8/8/99, Register 151; am 8/31/2000, Register 155; am 9/30/2000, Register 155; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 6/20/2010, Register 194; am 7/16/2011, Register 199; am 6/27/2014, Register 210; am 11/13/2014, Register 212; am 7/22/2017, Register 223; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

5 AAC 35.530. Tenders for Tanner crab in Area J. (a) Notwithstanding 5 AAC 35.033(a), in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts, a vessel registered to fish for Tanner crab may tender Tanner crab from other registered Tanner crab vessels. A tender operator must be an authorized agent of a licensed processor. A tender operator may not use a vessel as a tender under this section until the tender operator registers the vessel as a tender with the department in Kodiak and receives the department's written authorization to use the vessel as a tender. A tender operator shall comply with the reporting requirements as set out under 5 AAC 39.130.

(b) A vessel registered to fish for Tanner crab may not tender that vessel's own catch for the purposes of satisfying delivery requirements of changing inseason section registration as described in 5 AAC 35.506. (Eff. 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

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5 AAC 35.535 is amended to read:

5 AAC 35.535. Closed waters in Registration Area J. (a) The waters of Alaska surrounding St. Matthew Island, Hall Island, and Pinnacle Island are closed to the taking of Tanner crab.

(b) The waters of the Bering Sea District east of 163° 00.00' W long., are closed to the taking of Tanner crab, except as incidental harvest in the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery as set out under 5 AAC 35.506(i)(2). (Eff. 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 35.556 is repealed and readopted to read:

5 AAC 35.556. Landing requirements for Registration Area J. (a) The landing provisions of 5 AAC 35.031(c) do not apply to Registration Area J.

(b) In the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts, or a section of those districts, when the Tanner crab fishery is closed, a vessel with Tanner crab on board may only be used to travel to the port of delivery to offload the Tanner crab. The vessel operator may not pull baited or stored gear or place gear in storage. (Eff. 9/29/96, Register 139; am 8/24/2002, Register 163; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 39. General Provisions.

5 AAC 39.645(j)(13) is repealed:

(13) repealed 7 / 10 / 2025.

(Eff. 7/12/86, Register 99; am 7/23/88, Register 107; em am 9/20/88 - 1/17/89, Register 108; am 7/30/89, Register 111; am 9/19/90, Register 115; em am 3/19/91 — 7/16/91, Register 118; am 5/2/92, Register 122; am 6/24/93, Register 126; am 11/3/95, Register 136; am 9/1/96, Register 139; am 12/26/97, Register 144; am 7/21/99, Register 151; am 8/31/2000, Register 155; am 7/31/2003, Register 167; am 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 8/28/2005, Register 175; am 7/16/2006, Register 179; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 7/16/2011, Register 199; am 6/27/2014, Register 210; am 7/22/2017, Register 223; am 6/17/2018, Register 226; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 6/21/2020, Register 234; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

((Publisher: Please insert "and" at the end of 5 AAC 39.645(j)(11).)))

5 AAC 39.646(a)(1) is amended to read:

(1) a **bachelor's** [BACHELOR] degree or higher from an accredited college or university with a major in [THE SCIENCES OF] biology, **a** [ANY] branch of biology, or limnology that includes

(A) a minimum of 30 semester hours in applicable biological sciences, **including at least one course that includes the** [WITH] use of dichotomous keys; [IN AT LEAST ONE COURSE,] and

(B) the successful completion of at least one **mathematics** course [EACH IN MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS WITH A MINIMUM OF FIVE SEMESTER HOURS TOTAL FOR BOTH]; or

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(Eff. 12/26/97, Register 144; am 7/21/99, Register 151; am 6/21/2020, Register 234; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 39.670(c)(2)(A) is amended to read:

(A) authorize **another** [OTHER] vessel **operator** [OPERATORS] who **is** [ARE] registered for the same fishery to operate crab pot gear registered to that vessel, **except that in the WAG fishery as set out under (b)(4) of this section, a vessel operator may only authorize another vessel operator who is registered for the same fishery to operate crab pot gear registered to that vessel after the vessel has checked out of the fishery as set out under (3)(G) of this subsection;** before a vessel operator may operate crab pot gear registered to another vessel, the registered operator of the pot gear must file a cooperative gear authorization form with the department authorizing other vessels to operate the crab pot gear;

5 AAC 39.670(c)(3)(A) is amended to read:

(A) an active vessel may collectively operate and transport **the** crab pot gear of another registered and active vessel, **except that in the WAG fishery as set out under (b)(4) of this section an active vessel may only operate and transport the crab pot gear of another vessel that has checked out of the fishery as set out under (3)(G) of this subsection;**

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(Eff. 8/14/2005, Register 175; am 8/28/2005, Register 175; am 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 6/27/2014, Register 210; am 8/27/2016, Register 219; am 7/22/2017, Register 223; am 6/21/2020, Register 234; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 55. Prince William Sound Area.

5 AAC 55.022(b)(5)(A) is amended to read:

(A) may be taken from May 1 - September 15 [APRIL 15 - SEPTEMBER 15]; no bag, possession, or size limits;

5 AAC 55.022(b)(5) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(E) a vessel may only have one shrimp pot in addition to the legal limit of shrimp pot gear;

(Eff. 5/4/94, Register 130; am 9/5/97, Register 143; am 3/16/2000, Register 153; am 7/5/2000, Register 155; am 9/30/2000, Register 155; am 5/11/2003, Register 166; am 3/13/2004, Register 169; am 12/1/2004, Register 172; am 3/30/2006, Register 177; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 4/24/2009, Register 190; am 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 3/24/2012, Register 201; am 6/1/2013, Register 206; am 3/29/2015, Register 213; am 7/22/2017, Register 223; am 3/29/2018, Register 225; am 8/10/2018, Register 227; am 6/28/2019, Register 230; am 3/27/2022, Register 241; am 6/7/2025, Register 254; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.060 AS 16.05.251

The introductory language of 5 AAC 55.055(a) is amended to read:

(a) The department shall manage the sport and subsistence [OTHER NONCOMMERCIAL] shrimp fisheries in the Prince William Sound Area as follows:

...

5 AAC 55.055(a)(1) is amended to read:

(1) the guideline harvest level for shrimp taken by pot gear in subsistence [NONCOMMERCIAL] fisheries is calculated as 60 percent of the total allowable harvest for the area;

5 AAC 55.055(a)(3)(A) is amended to read:

(A) only from May 1 [APRIL 15] through September 15;

5 AAC 55.055(a)(3) is amended by adding new subparagraphs to read:

(D) a vessel may only have one shrimp pot in addition to the legal limit of shrimp pot gear;

(E) pots operated to take shrimp may be longlined; at least one buoy on the longline must be marked as set out under 5 AAC 75.035(1);

(F) a crab pot may not be fished on a longline with a shrimp pot;

5 AAC 55.055(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(4) the sport and subsistence shrimp fisheries may open only if the estimated biomass is at least 20 percent of K.

5 AAC 55.055 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(d) For the purpose of this section, "K" means the carrying capacity of spot shrimp under prevailing environmental conditions. (Eff. 8/23/2009, Register 191; am 7/13/2012, Register 203; am 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

((Publisher, please change the period at the end of 5 AAC 55.055(a)(3)(C) to a semicolon.)))

Chapter 58. Cook Inlet - Resurrection Bay Saltwater Area.

5 AAC 58.026(a) is amended to read:

(a) Before harvesting razor clams or shellfish with pots, a person must obtain a sport fishing shellfish harvest recording form as set out under [, DESCRIBED IN] 5 AAC 75.016 [AND PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT]. Upon taking shellfish with pots, and before concealing the shellfish from plain view or removing the shellfish from the fishing site, the person must enter the harvest and catch information requested in the form. A person who fails to comply with the requirements of 5 AAC 75.016 or this subsection [OR 5 AAC 75.016], including a [ANY] requirement to return harvest and catch information to the department, may be ineligible to obtain a shellfish harvest recording form during the following season in the fishery for which the form was required, unless the permit applicant demonstrates to the department that failure to report was due to unavoidable circumstances.

(Eff. 2/25/98, Register 145; am 6/5/2003, Register 166; am 7/1/2006, Register 178; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 6/21/2020, Register 234; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 58.040(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) if the estimated adult clam abundance is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the average 1989 - 2012 abundance but the population does not meet the criteria as set out under [OUTLINED IN] (1) of this subsection, [THEN] razor clams may be taken from August 1 through August 31 [MAY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30] and the bag and possession limits are the first 15 [30] clams taken or possessed; the combined harvest rate of the sport and personal use fisheries is not expected to exceed 10 percent of the adult clam abundance. (Eff. 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251

Chapter 77. Personal Use Fishery.

5 AAC 77.507 is amended to read:

5 AAC 77.507. Personal use permit for shellfish. A person must obtain a personal use shellfish permit as set out under [DESCRIBED IN] 5 AAC 77.015 [,] from the department before harvesting razor clams or shellfish with pots in the Cook Inlet Area. Upon taking shellfish and before concealing the shellfish from plain view or removing the shellfish from the fishing site, the person must enter the catch information requested on the personal use permit. A person who fails to comply with the requirements of 5 AAC 77.015 or this section, including a requirement to return harvest and catch information to the department, may be ineligible to obtain a shellfish harvest recording form during the following season in the fishery for which the form was required, unless the permit applicant demonstrates to the department that failure to report was due to unavoidable circumstances. (Eff. 9/12/2008, Register 187; am 9/19/2019, Register 231; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Register 255, October 2025 FISH AND GAME

Authority: AS 16.05.251

5 AAC 77.519(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) if the estimated adult clam abundance is greater than or equal to 50 percent of the average 1989 - 2012 abundance but the population does not meet the criteria set out under (1) of this subsection [OUTLINED IN (b)(1) OF THIS SUBSECTION], [THEN] razor clams may be taken from August 1 through August 31 [MAY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30] and the bag and possession limits are the first 15 [30] clams taken or possessed; the combined harvest rate of the sport and personal use fisheries is not expected to exceed 10 percent of the adult clam abundance. (Eff. 9/25/2022, Register 243; am 11/10/2024, Register 252; am 7 / 10 / 2025, Register 255)

Authority: AS 16.05.251