



Chionoecetes Crab Quick Reference Guide

The legal definitions of Tanner (*C. bairdi*) and snow (*C. opilio*) crab are in regulation 5 AAC 35.521.

A *Chionoecetes* crab with both eyes completely red in color AND with the margin of the upper mouth (also referred to as the upper teeth or epistomal margin) notched at two points with angular V-shaped cuts forming an “M” shape is, by legal definition, a Tanner crab; all others are legally snow crab.

TANNER CRAB - *C. bairdi*

Upper Mouth or Epistomal Margin



AND

Eye Color



These are M-shaped.

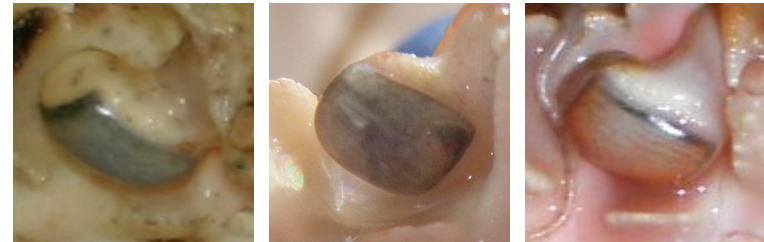
These eyes are completely red.

SNOW CRAB - *C. opilio*

Upper Mouth or Epistomal Margin



Eye Color



These are NOT M-shaped.

These eyes are NOT completely red.

This guide is not intended to provide definitive biological identification, but instead allow for consistent application of the regulations.