

**PROPOSAL 264 - 5 AAC 34.625. Lawful gear for Registration Area O.** Repeal provisions allowing concurrent harvest of red and golden king crab in Registration Area O, as follows:

5 AAC 34.625(f) is repealed:

(f) **Repealed** / /2017 [A VESSEL MAY BE REGISTERED TO FISH IN THE COMMERCIAL RED KING CRAB AND GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERIES AT THE SAME TIME. HOWEVER, ONLY SINGLE LINE POTS MAY BE OPERATED IN AREAS OPEN TO RED KING CRAB FISHING AND ONLY LONGLINE POTS MAY BE OPERATED IN AREAS OPEN TO GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHING].

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Aleutian Islands golden king crab are managed for individual fishing quota (IFQ) and community development quota (CDQ) allocations in two separate fisheries, east and west of 174° W. long. Aleutian Islands red king crab are managed for individual fishing quota (IFQ) and community development quota (CDQ) allocations only in the Petrel District (west of 179° W. long.). Red king crab in the Dutch Harbor District (east of 171° W. long.) and Adak District (171° W. long. to 179° W. long.) are managed for open access participants.

Aleutian Islands red king crab district boundaries do not align with the Aleutian Islands golden king crab management boundaries. Prior to crab rationalization vessels were allowed under 5 AAC 34.625(f) to fish red king crab and golden king crab at the same time if both species were open. Regulation 5 AAC 39.670(c)(6), adopted with implementation of crab rationalization, does not allow a vessel to harvest IFQ and non-IFQ crab simultaneously; therefore this proposal would repeal the regulation allowing simultaneous harvest of red and golden king crab in the Aleutian Islands. Concurrent Aleutian Islands red and golden king crab harvest would be problematic because two of the three red king crab districts fall within the western Aleutian Islands golden king crab area. Allowing red king crab retention during golden king crab fishing would create concern with regard to red king crab harvest location.

**PROPOSED BY:** Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F16-164)

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