

PROPOSAL 54

5 AAC 32.125. Lawful gear for Registration Area A.

Reduce the maximum number of pots per vessel in the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial Dungeness crab fishery from 300 pots to 240 pots, as follows:

(a) In Registration area A, no more than 240 Dungeness Crab Pots may be operated from a single vessel to take Dungeness crab under any circumstances. A person may not operate more pots than allowed under the terms of that persons CFEC permit. If multiple CFEC permit holders are registered to fish from a vessel the maximum number of pots that may be operated from that vessel is the aggregate of the number of pots allowed under the registered permit holder permits, except that the number of pots operated on board that vessel may not exceed 240 pots.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? To reduce the number of Dungeness Crab pots that a single vessel can operate. This proposal will reduce the number of Dungeness Crab pots on the fishing grounds from a possible 42450 pots to 33960 pots. Due to sea otter predation the Dungeness fishing grounds have become over saturated with gear, this proposal if adopted would take some of the pressure off the grounds and allow fisherman to more effectively operate their gear.

PROPOSED BY: Ryan Littleton

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