

PROPOSAL 59

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, annual, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of the Southeast Alaska Area.

Close the Yakutat Area Dungeness crab sport fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 47.021(b) is amended by adding a new subparagraph to read:

(b) in the Yakutat vicinity;

(4) in all waters between the longitude of Cape Suckling (144° W. long.) and a line running southwest from the western most tip of Cape Fairweather at 58° 47.89' N. lat. and 137° 56.68' W. long., sport fishing for Dungeness crab is closed.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Surveys conducted by the department indicate that the Dungeness crab stock in the Yakutat Area has not rebuilt following the closure of the commercial fishery in 2000. Surveys conducted in 2004, 2012, and 2013 indicate the population has not recovered. The Dungeness crab sport fishery in the Yakutat vicinity has been closed each year since 2005 by emergency order.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F17-128)
