

**PROPOSAL 264**

**5 AAC 32.415. Operation of pot gear for Registration Area J.**

Amend regulation requiring operation of Dungeness crab pot gear once within a 14-day period, as follows:

Dungeness pot gear in area J shall be removed from the water at least once within a 30-day period.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** I have written numerous letters to the board trying to change this regulation since it was adopted, I feel it passed hastily and needs to be amended from a 14-day period to a 30-day period. A 14-day period is too tight of a timeline to expect fishermen to comply with this regulation. Not to mention, all Kodiak Dungeness fishermen have always fished multi fisheries and 14-days makes it almost impossible to do so.

This proposal was put forward because gear was being left in the water after the fishery closed and even though I don't believe this regulation fixes that, almost all fishermen agree that this regulation is better than other possible regulations. However, 14 days is too short of a time period. So by changing it to 30 days, it gives fishermen a bigger window to comply. Kodiak Dungeness fishermen usually don't wait longer than 30 days anyway because the biodegradable line disintegrates shortly after.

**PROPOSED BY:** Randy Blondin

(HQ-F20-077)

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