

PROPOSAL 182

5 AAC 31.115. Shrimp pot guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A.

Divide the District 15 GHR into two fishing areas with distinct GHRs for the new areas, as follows:

5 AAC 31.115 (a)(15) is amended to read:

(15) District 15: [0 – 20,000 POUNDS OF COONSTRIPE SHRIMP;]

(A) Chilkoot, Lutak, and Taiya Inlets: 0 – 10,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp;

(B) remainder of District 15: 0 – 10,000 pounds of coonstripe shrimp;

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? Current regulations do not reflect management practices for the District 15 pot shrimp fishery that have been utilized since 2009. Past management practices of managing for one GHL for all of District 15 resulted in reductions of GHL and closures. The District 15 GHL for coonstripe shrimp was set at 20,000 pounds, the upper end of the GHR, through the 2004/05 season. It was reduced by 25% to 15,000 pounds for the 2005/06 season in response to concerns for stock health. The district was closed for three seasons from the 2006/07 season through 2008/09 season due to increased concerns for stock health. Beginning with the 2009/10 season, District 15 was split into two management areas, each with a specific management target to further address concerns for stock health. One target of 7,500 pounds was specific to “District 15-East,” an area comprised of Chilkoot, Lutak, and Taiya Inlets. A second management target of 7,500 pounds was specified for “District 15-Remainder,” which included the remainder of the district with Chilkat Inlet being the primary fishing area. This management strategy has allowed the department to better react to changes in the shrimp populations in these areas and provide for more sustainable fisheries.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Department of Fish and Game

(HQ-F20-159)
