

PROPOSAL 240

5 AAC 35.106 Area A registration.

Allow participants in the Registration Area A Tanner and golden king crab fisheries to have Tanner crab aboard their vessel while fishing for golden king crab in a closed commercial Tanner crab area.

A vessel registered to fish both Golden King crab and Tanner crab in Registration are A may have baited Golden King crab gear in a portion of Registration Area A that is closed to commercial Tanner crab fishing but may not haul Golden King crab gear in a portion of Registration Area A that is closed to commercial Tanner crab fishing until all Tanner crab are removed from the vessel and the vessels Tanner crab registration is invalidated. Once the vessels Tanner crab registration is invalidated, Tanner crab may not be retained on or sold from that vessel.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The way the regulation is currently written a vesse that is dual registered for Golden King crab and Tanner crab may not have baited gear in the water in an area closed to commercial Tanner crab fishing. There are several portions of registration Area A that have both Golden King crab and Tanner crab. Under the current regulation a Vessel fishing both Golden King crab and Tanner crab has 2 choices:

- 1) Quit Tanner crabbing early to ensure all Tanner crab are removed from the vessel and the vessel registration is invalidated before the close time.
- 2) Remove all the bait containers and tie open the pot doors while the vessel is in town unloading Tanner crab and invalidating their registration.

Either of these options costs a vessel dual registered for Golden King crab and Tanner crab time and money. I believe the rewrite of this regulation mantains the intent not allow the hauling of pots by a dual registered vessel in an area that is closed to Tanner crab, but allows the vessel to leave those pots baited and fishing while unloading and invalidating the Tanner crab registration.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. Through conversations with fishery management and fellow permit holders.

PROPOSED BY: Jared Bright

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