

PROPOSAL 30

5 AAC 02.207. Lawful gear for subsistence king and Tanner crab fisheries.

Increase subsistence Tanner crab pot limit in portions of Prince William Sound, as follows:

Increase current subsistence pot limits from two pots per vessel to eight pots per vessel in zones 466033, 466032, 466003, 466005, 466002, 466031, 456031, 456032, 456002, 4566003, 466001, 456001, 456004, and 446001.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Subsistence Tanner crab fishery’s two pot limits across the sound does not allow a reasonably diligent person to acquire an adequate number of crab to meet their needs due to lower densities and longer distances to travel. Because crab densities are lower, but still harvestable is southeast PWS we do not believe a vessel pot limit is necessary in this area.

We propose to modify and increase Tanner Crab subsistence pot limits in southeast Prince William Sound. Currently, a vessel may only use two pots, even when multiple permit holders fish together. Allowing each permit holder their own two pot limit, up to eight total pots per vessel, would provide the opportunity to economically harvest crab whereas it is cost-prohibitive and impractical now. We do not believe individuals from northern and western PWS communities would travel to the southeastern crab fisheries to take advantage of this larger pot limit because they would be passing better crabbing grounds enroute where they could efficiently harvest their limits with only two pots per vessel.

Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain. This proposal was developed by the Native Village of Eyak Cultural Department in collaboration with the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources. It was vetted through the Tribe’s Natural Resources Advisory Council and recommended it to Tribal Council who unanimously approved this submission.

PROPOSED BY: Native Village of Eyak

(HQ-F24-097)
