

**PROPOSAL 311**

**5 AAC 31.2XX. New section.**

Allow vessels participating in the Prince William Sound shrimp pot fishery to also operate as tenders, as follows:

Create new regulatory language that allows boats to act as tenders while also participating in the fishery. That way fishermen could put all of their catch on one boat to take to a processor. Regulation like this is currently in place for the Kodiak District Dungeness fishery.

5 AAC 31.2XX Tenders for Shrimp

**Notwithstanding 5 AAC 31.033, in the Prince William Sound Area, a vessel registered to fish for shrimp may tender shrimp from other registered shrimp vessels. A tender operator must be an authorized agent of a processor. Before using a vessel as a tender under this section, the tender operator shall register as a tender with the department at the department office. A tender operator shall complete an ADF&G fish ticket at the first point of delivery from the catcher vessel.**

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?** Allow vessels that are participating in the shrimp fishery to also be used as tender vessels to transport shrimp back to port. Fresh shrimp need to be frozen or sold within three days of harvest. It doesn't make sense for 50 shrimp boats to all run back and forth to town every three days when they could simply consolidate their catch on one boat. The low volume in these fisheries make it difficult to afford a dedicated tender vessel. Allowing participants to tender would greatly increase the profitability of this fishery. It would also enable more access to this resource for local Prince William Sound communities and processors.

**Did you develop your proposal in coordination with others, or with your local Fish and Game Advisory Committee? Explain.**

**PROPOSED BY:** Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU)

(EF-F24-140)

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