

Checklist for a Legal Pot

- Correctly sized escape rings in the proper location
- Proper biodegradable escape mechanism (rotten cotton)
- Properly marked buoy

Importance of Escape Mechanisms

The purpose of mandatory escape mechanisms in shellfish pot gear is to prevent unnecessary mortality by allowing shellfish to escape if pots are lost or left unattended. These mechanisms rely on the use of untreated biodegradable cotton twine (rotten cotton) and escape rings. The cotton twine will provide an opening in the pot when the twine degrades and escape rings allow the release of juvenile and undersize crab.

Buoy Markings

Crab pot buoys must be marked with:

- Fisherman's first initial and last name
- Home address
- Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) issued AK vessel numbers and/or vessel name

A phone number on the buoy is also helpful if a lost pot is found.

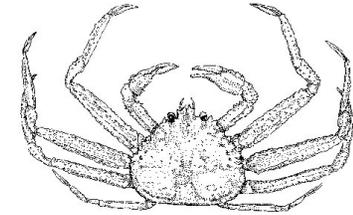


News releases and regulations are available on the ADF&G Division of Commercial Fisheries website : <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

Emergency orders, which always supersede regulations, are also available at the website. For more information regarding bag and possession limits or to locate the ADF&G office closest to you, call (907) 267-2100.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities in compliance with state and federal civil rights and equal opportunity laws. Obtain full ADF&G and Americans with Disabilities Act and Office of Equal Opportunity statement online at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov> or call (907) 465-4270.

Crab Pot Requirements



- **King & Tanner Crab Pots**
- **Buoy Requirements**



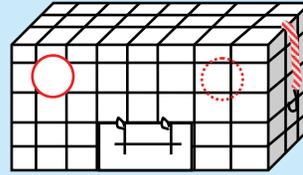
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518
(907) 267-2105
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov>

Rigid Mesh Pots

Escape Rings

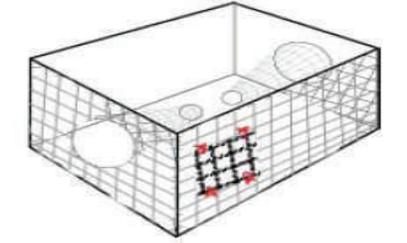
Two rings on opposite sides of the pot.

- Escape rings need to be 4 3/8 inch inside diameter.



Biodegradable Escape Mechanism

- One side of the pot must have a 12 x 8 inch panel, located no more than 6 inches from the base and parallel to it, secured with no more than four single loops of 30-thread, 100% untreated cotton twine.

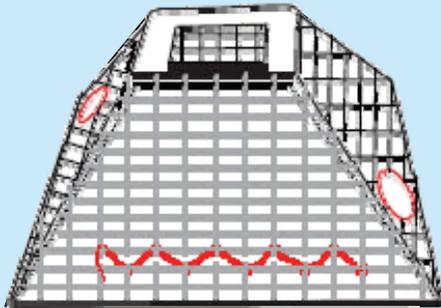


Mesh Pots

Escape Rings

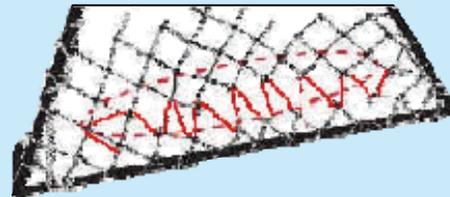
Two rings on opposite sides of the pot.

- Escape rings need to be 4 3/8 inches inside diameter.



Biodegradable Escape Mechanism

- A sidewall opening 18 inches or more, which is located no more than 6 inches from the base and parallel to it, secured with a single piece of 30-thread count, untreated cotton twine.



Rigid & Mesh Pots

There are different biodegradable escape mechanism requirements for rigid and mesh pots.

Rigid Mesh Pots:

- One side of the pot must have a panel which will drop away when the cotton twine securing it degrades.
- The panel must measure 12 x 8 inches.
- The lower and longest edge of the rectangular panel must be parallel to and within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot.
- The panel can be secured with no more than 4 single loops of 30-thread, 100% untreated cotton twine. Each of these loops can only have one knot and may not be laced along the opening.

Mesh Pots:

- One sidewall of the pot must have an opening secured with 30-thread 100% cotton twine that will open when the twine degrades.
- The opening must measure at least 18 inches in length.
- The opening must be within 6 inches of the bottom of the pot.
- The cotton twine may only be knotted at each end.

