

**PROPOSAL 246 - 5 AAC 02.607. Subsistence fishing gear; and 5 AAC 39.105. Types of legal gear.** Add a definition for crab rakes and allow crab rakes as lawful subsistence shellfish gear north of Cape Newenham, as follows:

In that portion of the area north of the latitude of Cape Newenham, shell fish may only be taken by shovel, RAKE, jigging gear, pots and ring net.

5 AAC 39.105. TYPES OF LEGAL GEAR. (d)(31) a **crab rake** is a handheld implement no longer than 16 feet, equipped with one or more prongs used to gather crab.

**What is the issue you would like the board to address and why?**

Rakes are commonly used to harvest crab in the Norton Sound Section and may be used generally in the Northern District of the Bering Sea and Chukchi Sea. When handlining it is common practice to place a rake in the ice hole so that it can be used to move the crab up through the hole. With the establishment of the Spiny King Crab in in the Norton Sound Section, rakes have been found to be an effective method to catch crab wedged between boulders. During the transition period of ice break-up in eastern Norton Sound red King Crab are caught using rakes at Cape Denbigh, Besboro Island, and the rocky coast near Kliketarik.

**PROPOSED BY:** Charles Lean

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