

PROPOSAL 65

5 AAC 34.107. Description of golden king crab fishing areas within Registration Area A.

Expand fishing area for the Southeastern Alaska Area commercial golden king crab fishery, as follows:

5 AAC 34.114 **Southeast Alaska Golden King Crab Management Plan**, (b) To the extent possible, golden king crab shall be managed as a separate stock in each defined fishing area.

Deciding which fishing area these new areas are added in to, and therefore managed in conjunction with, is a somewhat complex matter. The following outline is more to show the intent of adding the areas rather than a guideline of how they should be added.

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(a) Northern area: all waters of section 11-A, **District 13, north of the latitude of Point Gardner at 57.01.00 N. lat.** and all waters of Districts 12 and 15.

(b) Icy Straight Area: all waters of **Districts 14 and 16.**

(c) Northern Stephens Passage Area: all waters of Sections 11-B and 11-C.

(d) East Central Area: all waters of Section 11-D, District 10, and District 9 east of a line from Kingsmill Point at 56.50.00 N. lat., 134.25.17 W. long. to Point Gardner at 57.01.00 N. lat., 134.37.00 W. long., **and all waters of District 8.**

(e) Mid-Chatham Straight Area: all waters of District 9 north of the latitude of Point Ellis at 56.33.67 N. lat., and west of a line from Kingsmill point to Point Gardner, **and all waters of District 13, south of the latitude of Point Gardner and North of the latitude of Point Ellis.**

(f) Lower Chatham Straight Area: all waters of **Districts 9 and 13, south of the latitude of Point Ellis.**

(g) Southern Area: all waters of **Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.**

(h) Outside Area: all waters of Registration Area A not described in a-g.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The current regulatory description of Golden King crab fishing areas within Registration Area A does not include all waters of Registration Area A. Not included in the description are all of : Districts 3, 16, and (the as of yet undefined) Southeast Outside waters; portions of Districts 5, 7, 8, and 13. Because these areas are not in the description of Golden King Crab fishing areas, they are described in the Southeast Golden King Crab Fishery Announcements as “not open”. They are essentially closed to fishing for no other reason than the fact that they are not described as fishing areas.

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