



THE STATE  
*of* **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF ALASKA WILDLIFE TROOPERS  
Office of the Director

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February 26, 2025

Madam Chair Marit Carlson-Van Dort  
Alaska Board of Fish  
P.O. Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811

Madam Chair and Board of Fish Members:

AWT recognizes that regulations are developed by the Alaska Boards of Fish and Game through the public process to support management plans. Management plans rely upon public compliance with regulations to achieve success. Enforcement is a crucial element needed to ensure long-term compliance with regulations by the public. The Alaska Wildlife Troopers request the board recognize that the division has limited resources and manpower, and any new regulation scheme or area restrictions may place an additional burden on AWT. When the board considers proposals having to do with allocation or biological concerns, AWT is generally neutral in position and will not have a written comment.

Upon review of the proposals for the 2025 Anchorage meeting AWT provides the following comments for consideration:

**Proposal 266** seeks to allow additional gear types in the PU crab fishery by allowing “crab loop traps” or snares, foldable crab nets, and a line attached to a pole.

AWT is neutral to adding additional methods and means, however crab loop traps and foldable crab nets will need to be defined in 5AAC 39.105 to be enforceable.

**Proposal 284** seeks to allow catcher vessels to operate as tender during the Kodiak District commercial Tanner crab fishery.

AWT is neutral on this proposal, however AWT recommends the board adopt language prohibiting catcher/tender vessels from having any crab on board when switching in-season section registration.

**Proposal 294** seeks to establish a 58-foot vessel length limit for the Alaska Peninsula District commercial Dungeness crab fishery.

AWT is neutral to this proposal, but if passed, AWT would recommend similar language to AS16.05.835(a) so that it is clear to both vessel owners and enforcement on how vessels will be measured.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Derek DeGraaf".

Captain Derek DeGraaf  
Alaska Wildlife Troopers