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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: **06/20/2025**

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Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab Total Allowable Catch and Season Dates Announced

Aleutian Islands golden king crab are managed east and west of 174° W longitude with a separate total allowable catch (TAC) for each area. The 2025/26 Aleutian Islands golden king crab Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ), Community Development Quota (CDQ), and Adak Community Allocation (ACA) are allocated as follows:

East of 174° W longitude:

Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ)	2,988,000 pounds
Community Development Quota (CDQ)	332,000 pounds
Total	3,320,000 pounds

West of 174° W longitude:

Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ)	783,000 pounds
Adak Community Allocation (ACA)	87,000 pounds
Total	870,000 pounds

The 2025/26 Aleutian Islands golden king crab Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ), Community Development Quota (CDQ), and Adak Community Allocation (ACA) fisheries will open August 1, 2025 at 12:00 noon and close on April 30, 2026. Vessel registration will begin at 12:00 noon in Dutch Harbor on Tuesday, July 29, 2025. An individual holding a 2025 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) Aleutian Islands king crab interim use permit card (K91O or K09O) must be aboard the vessel when it is registered and during all fishing operations. Fishermen may concurrently harvest IFQ and CDQ golden king crab in the eastern Aleutian Islands (east of 174° W longitude) or IFQ and ACA golden king crab in the western Aleutian Islands (west of 174° W longitude), but may not be concurrently registered in both the eastern and western Aleutian Islands. A separate CFEC permit card and registration is required for IFQ, CDQ, and ACA fisheries.

A valid United States Coast Guard (USCG) Commercial Fisheries Vessel Safety Decal is required before a vessel registration is issued. Vessels must also have an activated vessel monitoring system (VMS) approved by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The vessel operator must notify the USCG at least 24 hours prior to departing port when carrying crab pot gear. USCG can be contacted in Dutch Harbor at: (907) 581-3466 ext. 1 or (907) 359-1575 (after hours).

At the time of vessel registration, all pots onboard the vessel or in wet storage must comply with current Aleutian Islands commercial golden king crab fishing regulations. Vessel operators may file gear operation cooperatives with other registered vessels. A vessel operator may transport crab pot gear to the fishing grounds for another vessel operator; however, the registered vessel of the crab pot gear has seven days to be active in the registration area where the gear is deployed. A vessel operator may make a one-time transfer of all pot gear to another vessel operator at the completion of fishing operations.

Catcher-only vessels are required to carry an observer for 50% (by weight) of their harvested golden king crab during each of three trimesters (August 1 to October 31, November 1 to January 31, and February 1 to April 30). Catcher-processor vessels are required to carry an observer for 100% of all fishing activity. Observer coverage is funded using Aleutian Islands golden king crab test fish funds. Please contact Saltwater Inc. at (907) 539-2548 to arrange for observer coverage.

A vessel operator shall notify Alaska Department of Fish and Game within 72 hours of completing fishing operations in a registration area or when departing the registration area with gear in long-term storage or transferred to another vessel. Unbaited gear may be stored outside of designated storage areas after fishing is completed for up to 14 days. Pots must be removed from the water or placed in long-term storage if left unattended in a registration area for more than 14 days. A vessel operator's registration will be invalidated after 14 days of inactivity in a registration area.

For questions regarding issuance of quota share and IFQ/IPQ, contact NOAA Fisheries RAM Division at 1-800-304-4846 (option #2). For questions regarding federal Crab Rationalization Program regulations, contact NOAA Fisheries Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228 or the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement in Kodiak at (907) 486-3298 or Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-2061.

For further details contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239.

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