

ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES**DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY REGARDING NONCOMMERCIAL
SHRIMP POTS IN THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA.**

Previously
(FINDING #95-04-FB)

In accordance with AS 16.05.270, the Alaska Board of Fisheries delegates to the commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game the authority to adopt and make permanent changes to the following regulations:

Regulations in 5 AAC 01, 5 AAC 55, and 5 AAC 77 to require that subsistence, sport, and personal use shrimp pots in the Prince William Sound Area have uncovered net webbing or rigid mesh on a specific portion of the pots.

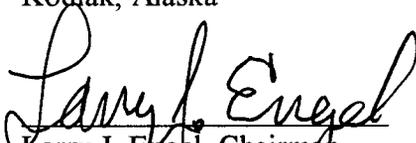
The board adopted a proposal during its March 1994 board meeting to require net webbing or rigid mesh to cover at least two adjacent vertical sides, or near-vertical sides of subsistence, sport, and personal use shrimp pots in the Prince William Sound Area to become effect January 1, 1996. In the case of a pot without a definable side, the net webbing or rigid mesh is required to cover a minimum of 50 percent of the vertical or near-vertical surface area of the pot. Due to an administrative error the correct amendment of the regulation was only accomplished in the subsistence regulation. The sport and personal use regulations require/allow only rigid mesh to be used on sport and personal use shrimp pots. The intent of the board was that owners/operators of noncommercial shrimp pots would have the option of using net webbing or rigid mesh on their pots. However, the current regulation to become effective January 1, 1996 for sport and personal use shrimp pots does not allow this option.

Since statewide shrimp proposals are not scheduled for consideration until the 1996/97 board cycle, and the new regulation becomes effective January 1, 1996, it is necessary to adopt corrected regulations as soon as practicable to allow sport and personal use fishers the ability to operate pots that already are equipped with net webbing instead of rigid mesh.

The board also delegates authority to the commissioner to make necessary administrative changes to any appropriate regulations, if the changes in regulations under this delegation create any conflicts with existing regulations.

Adopted - December 5, 1995
Kodiak, Alaska

Vote: 6-0-1 absent


Larry J. Engel, Chairman
Alaska Board of Fisheries