

2024/25 Stock Status Determination for Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab

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Summary

The full assessment of Aleutian Islands golden king crab (AIGKC) was conducted in May 2025 (Jackson 2025) prior to the completion of the directed fishery in the EAG and groundfish bycatch fisheries in both subdistricts. This document updates the full assessment with final stock status determination for the 2024/25 crab year (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) relative to completed estimates of fishing mortality and associated biological reference points. The May 2024 assessment determined the overfishing limit (OFL) for 2024/25 season to be 3.725 t (8.212 million lb) with an acceptable biological catch (ABC) of 2.794 t (6.159 million lb). Completed total fishery removals for the 2024/25 season were 2,426 t (5.349 million lb), consisting of 2,287 t (5.042 million lb) retained catch, 131.7 t (0.290 million lb) discard mortality in the directed fishery, and 7.6 t (0.017 million lb) bycatch mortality in groundfish fisheries. Since total fishery-related mortality was less than the OFL for 2024/25, **overfishing did not occur**.

The following two tables update the management performance tables presented in the May 2025 SAFE Report with completed fishery estimates of retained and total catch for 2024/25

Status and catch specifications for models EAG and WAG combined. Model 23.1c was used for 2025/26 reference points.

1000 t

Year	MSST	Biomass		Retained	Total	OFL	ABC
		(MMB _{mat})	TAC	Catch	Catch		
2021/22	5.859	12.592	2.690	2.699	3.056	4.817	3.372
2022/23	5.832	13.600	2.291	2.369	2.612	3.761	2.821
2023/24	5.772	12.716	2.508	2.578	2.765	4.182	3.137
2024/25	5.632	11.087	2.214	2.287	2.426	3.725	2.794
2025/26		10.480				3.166	2.374

Million lb

Year	MSST	Biomass		Retained	Total	OFL	ABC
		(MMB _{mat})	TAC	Catch	Catch		
2021/22	12.917	27.761	5.930	5.950	6.737	10.620	7.434
2022/23	12.857	29.983	5.051	5.223	5.758	8.292	6.219
2023/24	12.725	28.034	5.530	5.684	6.096	9.220	6.916
2024/25	12.417	24.443	4.881	5.042	5.348	8.212	6.159
2025/26		23.104				6.980	5.234

2022/23 reference points were estimated before the WAG fishery was completed.

2023/24 reference points were estimated before EAG and WAG fisheries were completed.

2025/26 reference points were estimated before EAG fishery was completed.

Literature

Jackson, T. 2025. Aleutian Islands golden king crab stock assessment 2025. North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Anchorage, AK.