

# Frozen LCC's

ISSUE: The Department has approximately 80 LCC's that were frozen. Crab abundance has been above the interim target of 200 million male and female spawning-age crabs for three consecutive years.

Given abundance levels, by regulation, we must assess the number of inactive LCC authorizations that may be restored to full active status for commercial harvest.

The Department is seeking feedback on allowing re-entry of these licenses.

# Assessment of Impact:

- Maximum estimated female harvest is 411 thousand pounds.
- 2010 female harvest was 12.7 million pounds.
- Maximum potential pot deployment would be 4,000 pots.
- Buybacks have removed the potential potting effort of 66,000 pots.
- If they re-enter, the 80 LCC's would be subject to bushel limits and closures that are adjusted based on crab abundance and fishery performance relative to the target.

Feedback on possible Re-entry?