

No. 7863

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Agreement (with appendix) relating to fishing for king  
crab. Signed at Washington, on 5 February 1965**

*Official texts: English and Russian.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 27 July 1965.*

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**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
et  
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES  
SOVIÉTIQUES**

**Accord (avec appendice) concernant la pêche au crabe  
d'Alaska. Signé à Washington, le 5 février 1965**

*Textes officiels anglais et russe.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 27 juillet 1965.*

No. 7863. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS RELATING TO FISHING FOR KING CRAB. SIGNED AT WASHINGTON, ON 5 FEBRUARY 1965

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The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics having considered in a spirit of mutual understanding their problems relating to the king crab fishery on the continental shelf in the light of their ratifications of the Convention on the Continental Shelf adopted at Geneva, 1958,<sup>2</sup> and having taken into account the existing fishery of the Soviet Union for king crab in the eastern Bering Sea, have agreed as follows :

1. The king crab is a natural resource of the continental shelf over which the coastal state has sovereign rights for the purposes of exploration and exploitation in accordance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Convention on the Continental Shelf.

2. Nationals and vessels of the Soviet Union may carry out commercial fishing for king crab on the continental shelf of the United States for a period of two years in that area of the eastern Bering Sea described in the Appendix<sup>3</sup> to this Agreement, provided that the annual commercial catch by Soviet nationals and vessels in such area shall not exceed 118,600 cases of 48 half-pound cans each in 1965 and 1966.

3. Each Government will apply the measures specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Appendix to this Agreement to its nationals and vessels engaged in the king crab fishery in the eastern Bering Sea. These measures may be modified by agreement between the two Governments. Either Government shall, if requested by the other Government, provide opportunity for observation of the conduct of enforcement of the provisions of this Agreement and for that purpose shall permit duly authorized officers of the other Government to board its vessels engaged in the king crab fishery in the eastern Bering Sea. These officers will make a report on the results of their observations; the report will be forwarded to the flag government for appropriate action if such should be necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 5 February 1965, by signature.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 499, p. 311.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 100 of this volume.

4. The two Governments will continue and intensify their study of the king crab resource in the eastern Bering Sea and will exchange annually by November 30 the data resulting from such study including also, to the extent possible, an estimate of the maximum sustainable yield of the resource. The data to be furnished by each Government may be prepared in accordance with its own methodology and shall include, but not be limited to, the categories of data described in the Appendix to this Agreement. The two Governments will also provide for the exchange of scientific personnel engaged in the study of the king crab resources.

5. The two Governments will meet at some mutually convenient time prior to the expiration of this Agreement to review the operation of the Agreement and to decide on future arrangements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed the present Agreement and have affixed their seals thereto.

DONE in duplicate, in the English and Russian languages, both equally authentic, at Washington this 5th day of February, 1965.

For the Government of the United States of America :

Wm. C. HERRINGTON

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :

М. СУХОПУЧЕНКО

#### A P P E N D I X

1. The area referred to in paragraph 2 of the Agreement is that portion of the southeastern Bering Sea lying seaward of the United States territorial sea west of 160° W. longitude.

2. (a) Female king crabs, king crabs less than 14.5 cms. in maximum carapace width and soft-shelled king crabs shall not be retained and used. Any such crabs taken incidentally shall be returned immediately to the sea with a minimum of injury.

(b) King crabs shall not be taken by means of fishing gear other than pot and tangle net. The stretched diagonal measure of tangle net mesh shall be no less than 50 cms.

3. Unless otherwise agreed by the two Governments, only pots may be used to capture king crabs for commercial purposes in that area lying seaward of the United States territorial sea and within the following described boundaries : a line running due west through Sea Lion Rock light and along 55°28' N. latitude to 165°34' W. longitude, thence southwesterly to an intersection of a line passing between Cape Navarin and Cape Sarichef at 55°16' N. latitude and 166°10' W. longitude, thence southeasterly along the Cape Navarin-Sarichef line to Cape Sarichef.

4. The data referred to in paragraph 4 of the Agreement are :

*a.* Biological Data.

- (1) Tag returns : tag number and/or tag; date and location of capture (latitude and longitude); sex, length, width and weight of crab; condition of shell.
- (2) Life History Data : length, width, weight and age of crab by sex; moult data; breeding habits, feeding habits, migration habits.
- (3) Publications dealing with king crabs in Bering Sea and North Pacific.

*b.* Catch Statistics.

Total annual catch and weekly or daily catch by area, sub-area or precise location.

*c.* Effort Statistics.

- (1) Number of nets and pots set; location of nets and pots set (sub-area, latitude and longitude, or boundaries of net field); duration of set for nets and pots and number of crabs caught; description of nets and pots—length, depth, mesh size, twine.
- (2) Number of fleets operated by dates of operations; number of setting boats, picker boats; number of fishermen.

*d.* Production Statistics.

- (1) Canned crab : number of cases, number of crabs per case, quantity of meat per case.
- (2) Frozen crab : number of units; number of crabs.