DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska; Dungeness Crab Commercial Fishery Compensation Program Application Procedures

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Glacier Bay National Park Dungeness crab commercial fishery compensation program application procedures.

SUMMARY: Section 123 (b) (1)—(3) of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for FY 1999Act ("the Act")(see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION in the document extending the comment period on Glacier Bay National Park commercial fishing proposed rules published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register) authorizes compensation for qualifying fishermen with a history of commercial Dungeness crab fishing in designated wilderness waters of the Beardslee Islands or Dundas Bay in at least six of the years during the period of 1987 through 1996. This **Federal Register** notice serves to provide application instructions for individuals who believe they qualify for compensation as outlined by the Act. Applications must be provided to the Superintendent, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, on or before February 1, 1999.

DATES: Applications for the Dungeness crab commercial fishery compensation program will be accepted on or before February 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Applications for the Dungeness crab commercial fishery compensation program should be submitted to the Superintendent, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, P. O. Box 140, Gustavus, Alaska 99826

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the Dungeness crab commercial fishery compensation program, please contact Randy King, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, P. O. Box 140, Gustavus, Alaska 99826. Phone: (907) 697–2230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Act requires fishermen to provide certain information sufficient to determine their eligibility for compensation. Fishermen making application to NPS for compensation, as outlined by the Act, must provide the following information to the Superintendent: (1) Full name, mailing address, and a contact phone number. (2) A sworn and notarized personal affidavit attesting to the applicant's history of participation in the Beardslee Island or Dundas Bay wilderness water commercial fisheries for Dungeness crab for at least 6 of 10 years, during the period of 1987 through 1996. (3) A copy of the fisherman's current state of Alaska Dungeness crab commercial fishing permit. (4) Any available corroborating information—including sworn and notarized affidavits of witnesses or documentation of commercial Dungeness crab landings from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game shellfish statistical units that include wilderness areas in the Beardslee Islands or Dundas Bay—that can assist in a determination of eligibility for compensation.

The superintendent will make a written determination on eligibility for compensation based on the information provided by the applicant. The superintendent will also make a written determination on the amount of compensation to be paid to an eligible applicant. The amount of compensation will depend on the compensation formula and options selected by the applicant and—as appropriate—the fair market values of the Dungeness crab commercial fishing permit and the fishing vessel and gear used in the fishery. The Act requires payment within six months from the date of application. If an application for compensation is denied, the superintendent will provide the reasons for the denial in writing. Any applicant adversely affected by the superintendent's determination may appeal to the regional director, Alaska region, within 60 days. Applicant's must substantiate the basis of their disagreement with the superintendent's determination. The regional director will provide opportunity for an informal oral hearing. After consideration of written materials and oral hearing, if any, and within a reasonable time, the regional director will affirm, reverse, or modify the superintendent's determination and set forth in writing the basis for the decision. A copy of the decision will be forwarded promptly to the applicant and will constitute final agency action.

Dated: December 4, 1998.

John Quinley,

Acting Regional Director, Alaska.
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