

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement
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2024 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERY
EAST CENTRAL AREA CLOSURE

The commercial golden king crab fishery in the East Central management area will close at **12:00 noon, Wednesday, February 21, 2024**. Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest is expected to reach the 150,000-pound guideline harvest level for the East Central Area by the closure date. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

The department will continue to monitor fishery performance via fish tickets, logbooks, and port sampling information for the remaining open management areas: Icy Strait, North Stephens Passage, Northern, Mid-Chatham Strait, Lower Chatham Strait, and Southern. Additional management actions may be taken as necessary, and the department will provide as much advance notice as possible for future area closures.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days following the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. For vessels registered for golden king crab only, all gear must be removed from the East Central Area no later than 12:00 noon, February 26, 2024. For vessels registered for both Tanner crab and golden king crab fisheries, all gear must be removed from core Tanner crab areas no later than 12:00 noon, February 28, 2024, and from non-core Tanner crab areas no later than 12:00 noon, March 4, 2024.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0824.

Advisory announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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