

Division of Commercial Fisheries  
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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: February 22, 2024*

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### SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB SEASON CLOSURE

The commercial Dungeness crab fishery in Registration Area A (Southeast) will close in Districts 1 and 2, and Section 13-B outside of the Sitka Sound Special Use Area [5 AAC 32.150(10)], by regulation **at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, February 28, 2024**, consistent with 5 AAC 32.110(3).

All Dungeness crab must be landed within 24 hours of a closure [5 AAC 32.031(d)]. Vessel operators unable to meet this deadline must contact department shellfish staff **within the 24 hours following the closure** to request authorization to possess Dungeness crab for an extended period.

A person may store Dungeness crab pots in waters closed to fishing for Dungeness crab for no more than seven days after the closure of the Dungeness crab fishery in Registration Area A, if all pot doors are secured fully open and all bait and bait containers are removed [5 AAC 32.052(b)(1)(A)]. Gear storage extensions due to extreme weather or a major vessel breakdown may be obtained by contacting department shellfish staff [5 AAC 32.052(c)] **before 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, 2024**.

Contact numbers for requesting extended holding and gear storage extensions are as follows:

Joe Stratman: (907) 772-5238  
Tessa Bergmann: (907) 772-5236  
Adam Messmer: (907) 465-4853  
Zane Chapman: (907) 465-4274

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3255