SOUTHEAST ALASKA PERSONAL USE KING CRAB FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Petersburg . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) announced today that the personal use golden king crab fishery in the Northern Area will close at 12:00 noon, Tuesday, February 12, 2019, and the personal use golden king crab fishery in the East Central Area will reopen at 12:00 noon, Tuesday, February 12, 2019.

The Northern management area cannot withstand the level of personal use harvest prescribed in regulation [5 AAC 77.664(a)(1)] and will be kept closed for one year. Refer to Figure 1 for a map showing open and closed waters for personal use golden king crab fishing effective at 12:00 noon, February 12, 2019.

Closed Area Descriptions [5 AAC 34.107(a)] (effective February 12, 2019)

- Northern: all waters of Section 11-A, Section 13-C, and Section 13-A in Peril Strait east of Point Kakul at 57°21.83’ N. lat., 135°41.42’ W. long., and all waters of Districts 12 and 15.

The East Central management area is currently closed to personal use golden king crab fishing. The East Central management area is defined as all waters of Section 11-D, District 10, and District 9 east of a line from Kingsmill Point at 56°50.00’ N. lat., 134°25.17’ W. long., to Point Gardner at 57°01.00’ N. lat., 134°37.00’ W. long., all waters of District 8 north of the latitude of Blaquiere Point at 56°35.00’ N. lat., all waters of Section 6-A, and all waters of District 5 north of the latitude of Point Baker at 56°21.53’ N. lat. The East Central management area will reopen to personal use golden king crab fishing at 12:00 noon, February 12, 2019.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0419.

Figure 1. Effective at 12:00 noon February 12, 2019, waters of Southeast Alaska closed to the retention of personal use golden king crab.