



## **Advisory Announcement**

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### **Prince William Sound Area Subsistence Shrimp Pot Fishery Number of allowable pots reduced to three Emergency Order 2-SF-E-02-20**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is reducing the maximum number of allowable pots per person and per vessel in the 2020 noncommercial Prince William Sound Area (PWS) shrimp pot fishery from five pots to three pots. The season remains the same and will be open from April 15 through September 15 with no daily or annual bag limits. Noncommercial users include sport and subsistence fishers.

The total allowable harvest level (TAH) of shrimp in PWS by noncommercial and commercial users is determined each year using historical harvest and effort, including the most recent season, and the results from an annual department shrimp pot survey. As mandated by the PWS Shrimp Management Plan, the TAH is then divided between the noncommercial (60%) and commercial (40%) fisheries to generate Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) for each fishery. For 2020, the TAH is determined to be 170,200 lb of shrimp. Of that total, 102,100 lb is allocated to noncommercial fisheries.

During the 2019 season, the GHL for the noncommercial shrimp fishery was also 102,100 lb; the harvest was estimated to be 102,919 lb with a pot limit of three. In order to target the GHL for the 2020 season, a three-pot limit is warranted, anticipating a similar level of participation.

In 2020, the commercial fishery will be prosecuted in Area 2, which generally includes Port Wells, Port Nellie Juan, and Kings Bay. For more information on the commercial fishery, please refer to AA05-SF-E-20.

PWS sport and subsistence shrimp permits will be available online the last week of March. All participants are required to have a permit with them while fishing for shrimp. In addition, all permits are due by October 15, 2020, regardless if participants fished for shrimp or not. Participants may report their harvest online after they are finished fishing for shrimp for the season and must report by the due date. Participants who report online with a valid email address will receive an emailed confirmation when their harvest has been reported.

For additional information about the PWS noncommercial shrimp pot fishery, please contact Jay Baumer in Anchorage at (907) 267-2265 and for subsistence and commercial shrimp pot fisheries, please contact Jan Rumble or Elisa Russ in Homer at (907) 235-8191.