



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: August 19, 2021

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**2021/22 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY
ANNOUNCEMENT**

The 2021/22 Southeast Alaska commercial sea cucumber dive fishery will open by emergency order at 8:00 a.m., Monday, October 4, 2021. Subsequent openings will be announced on a weekly basis until individual area's guideline harvest levels (GHL) have been reached or until March 31, 2022, whichever is earlier. A total of 1,872,800 pounds of sea cucumbers will be available for harvest this season. This is an increase of 115,200 pounds over the last time these areas were opened.

The following areas will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday, October 4, 2021, and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Tuesday, October 5, 2021:

District 1

Tree Point (Subdistricts 101-10 and 11): will be open for a GHL of **198,800 pounds** of sea cucumbers in the waters of Dixon Entrance, Edwards Passage, and Portland Canal in those waters south and east of Foggy Point Light at 54°55.44' N lat, 130°58.65' W long, west of a line from a point approximately 3 nautical miles (nmi) southwest of Hidden Inlet at 54°54.23' N lat, 130°22.75' W long, to a point on Pearse Island at 54°53.83' N lat, 130°21.78' W long, and north of the U.S./Canada border, with the following restriction:

Willard and Fillmore Inlets: will be closed in those waters of Willard and Fillmore Inlets north of the latitude of the southwesternmost tip of Fillmore Island at Male Point at 54°47.57' N lat, and north of a line from a point at 54°52.00' N lat, 130°31.45' W long, to a point at 54°51.85' N lat, 130°31.59' W long.

Percy Islands (Subdistrict 101-25): will be open for a GHL of **116,600 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of Clarence Strait in District 1, south of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Dall Head on Gravina Island at 55°07.75' N lat, 131°45.11' W long, and south of a line from the southernmost tip of Dall Head at 55°07.75' N lat, 131°45.11' W long, to Cedar Point located on Annette Island at 55°05.82' N lat, 131°36.54' W long, and north of the latitude of the westernmost tip of Point White located on the western side of Duke Island at 54°56.00' N lat, 131°29.83' W long, and west of the longitude at 131°26.60' W long, located on the northwest side of Duke Island.

West Behm Canal (Subdistricts 101-90 and 95): will be open for a GHL of **146,100 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of the eastern portion of West Behm Canal adjacent to Revillagigedo Island, Betton Island, and surrounding islands, north of the latitude of the westernmost tip of Point Higgins at 55°27.43' N lat, 131°50.03' W long, and south of the latitude of the westernmost tip of Nose Point at 55°48.32' N lat, 131°42.53' W long.

District 2

Lower Clarence Strait (Subdistrict 102-20): will be open for a GHL of **34,600 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters adjacent to the eastern shore of Prince of Wales Island north of the latitude of 54°54.27' N lat, located at the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay, and south of the latitude of 55°08.25' N lat, located north of Port Johnson, excluding all waters of Moira Sound west of a line from 55°05.08' N lat, 132°02.50' W long, to 55°02.03' N lat, 132°01.87' W long.

Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm (Subdistrict 102-60): will be open for a GHL of **420,700 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of Kasaan Bay, Skowl Arm, and McKenzie Inlet west of a line from a point on the southwest side of Kasaan Peninsula at 55°27.93' N lat, 132°11.92' W long, to a point near Skowl Point at 55°25.00' N lat, 132°15.50' W long, with the following restriction:

North shore of Kasaan Bay: will be closed in all waters less than 20 fathoms along the north shore of Kasaan Bay from the eastern tip of Grindall Point at 55°27.45' N lat, 132°08.60' W long, to the southern point of Harris Bay in Twelve-Mile Arm at 55°27.23' N lat, 132°40.00' W long.

Cleveland Peninsula (Subdistrict 102-80): will be open in for a GHL of **81,800 pounds** of sea cucumbers those waters of Clarence Strait adjacent to the western shore of Cleveland Peninsula north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Caamano Point located at 55°29.85' N lat, 131°58.21' W long, and south of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Lemesurier Point at 55°46.02' N lat.

District 3

Hetta Inlet, Nutkwa Inlet, and Keete Inlet (Subdistricts 103-23 and 25): will be open for a GHL of **197,900 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of Hetta Inlet, Nutkwa Inlet, Keete Inlet, and continuous waters east of a line from a point on Prince of Wales Island in Hetta Inlet approximately 1.1 nmi northeast of Eek Point at 55°08.95' N lat, 132°38.47' W long, to a point at 55°03.25' N lat, 132°38.80' W long, located approximately 0.4 nmi west of Lime Point, to a point on Prince of Wales Island at 54°59.53' N lat, 132°36.73' W long.

Trocadero Bay (Subdistricts 103-60): will be open for a GHL of **35,600 pounds** of sea cucumbers, in those waters east of a line from Point Miliflores at 55°24.41' N lat, 133°15.23' W long to a point on the Prince of Wales shoreline at 55°22.66' N lat, 133°07.00' W long and south of a line from of Point Miliflores at 55°24.41' N lat, 133°15.23' W long to Point Miraballes at 55°25.85' N lat, 133°05.22' W long.

District 6

Snow Pass (Subdistrict 106-30): will be open for a GHL of **176,200 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of Snow Pass south of a line from Point Colpoys Light at 56°20.18' N lat, 133°11.90' W long, to Macnamara Point at 56°19.85' N lat, 133°03.96' W long, and north and west of a line from Luck Point at 55°59.05' N lat, 132°44.08' W long, to Point Stanhope at 56°00.69' N lat, 132°36.47' W long, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°03.55' N lat, 132°37.43' W long, and Stikine Strait south of the latitude of Round Point at 56°16.65' N lat, 132°39.45' W long, with the following restriction:

Whale Pass, Lake Bay, Coffman Cove, Kashevarof Pass, and contiguous waters: will be closed west of a line from Luck Point at 55°59.05' N lat, 132°44.08' W long, to a point on Prince of Wales Island at 56°10.32' N lat, 133°02.44' W long.

District 12

Chatham Strait and Kelp Bay (Subdistricts 112-11, 112-21, and 112-22): will be open for a GHL of **173,000 pounds** in those waters of Section 12-A along the Catherine Island and Baranof Island shorelines south of the latitude of Point Thatcher at 57°24.97' N lat.

Eastern portion of Tenakee Inlet (Subdistricts 112-41 and 112-42): will be open for a GHL of **69,700 pounds** in those waters of Tenakee Inlet west of a line from South Passage Point at 57°45.85' N lat, 134°56.33' W long to East Point at 57°48.30' N lat, 134°56.78' W long, and east of 135°16.67' W long.

Western portion of Tenakee Inlet (Subdistricts 112-43, 112-44, 112-45, 112-46, 112-47, and 112-48): will be open for a GHL of **63,200 pounds** in those waters of Tenakee Inlet west of 135°16.67' W long.

District 13

Salisbury Sound and Peril Strait (Subdistricts 113-62, 63, 64, 65, and 66): will be open for a GHL of **158,600 pounds** in those waters of Section 13-A including all waters of Salisbury Sound, Sukoi Inlet, Neva Strait, Fish Bay, and contiguous waters east of the longitude of Kalinin Point at 135°48.07' W long, south of the latitude of Pogibshi Point at 57°30.50' N lat, and in Section 13-B only in those waters of Neva Strait north of the latitude of Neva Point at 57°14.09' N lat.

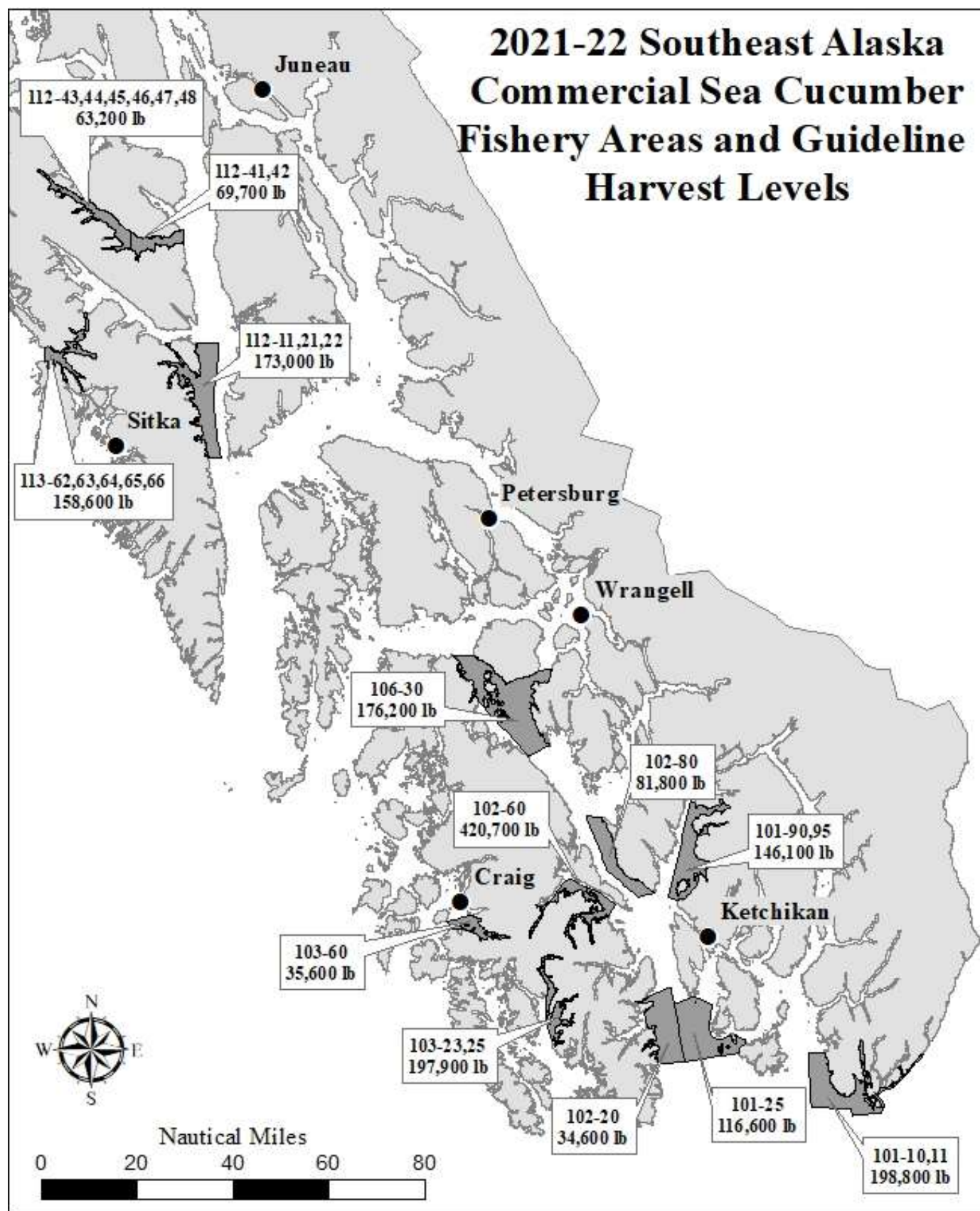


Figure 1. Commercial sea cucumber open harvest areas and GHLs for the 2021/22 season.

Note: This chart is for general reference purposes only and does not identify boundaries of open areas. See written descriptions above for detailed descriptions of open areas.

Regulatory Summary

The below information is intended as a summary of important regulations. Participants in the Southeast Alaska sea cucumber fishery are reminded to obtain and review a copy of the 2020–2021 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness Crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet to make sure that they are familiar with and understand all pertinent regulations.

The use of dive gear 14 days prior to a commercial fishery, 14 days after participating in a commercial opening, and between weekly open periods for miscellaneous shellfish is prohibited. A person who uses dive gear to fish in a commercial red sea urchin fishery, commercial geoduck fishery, or mariculture site may fish in the sea cucumber fishery within the 14-day period (5 AAC 38.147).

Each diver participating in the sea cucumber fishery must have a current Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Limited Entry Permit which can be obtained from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC). All vessels involved in the sea cucumber fishery need to have a current CFEC vessel license and a Miscellaneous Shellfish vessel registration form issued by ADF&G. Vessel registrations can be obtained at any ADF&G office. All crew members are required to have a valid Commercial Crewmembers License or a limited entry card from another fishery.

In order to provide a refuge for sea cucumbers in deeper waters, use of mixed gases or saturation diving is prohibited. Nitrox gas can be used for diving providing the oxygen concentration is less than 40%. Sea cucumbers may only be handpicked and any means other than individually collecting sea cucumbers by hand and placing them in bags is prohibited. Sea cucumbers may only be harvested by diving with the aid of: SCUBA; tethered, umbilical surface supplied systems; or a snorkel.

No more than three divers licensed to fish sea cucumbers (hereafter called “permit holders”) may be on board a vessel registered to fish sea cucumbers from 24 hours before, during, and for 24 hours after a fishing period or at any time commercially harvested sea cucumbers are on board. Only two permit holders can make landings from any registered sea cucumber vessel during any fishing period.

No permit holder may land, or have on board, more than 2,000 pounds of eviscerated sea cucumbers during any fishing period established by the department and only one species of miscellaneous shellfish is permitted on board a vessel at a time. Only vessels registered as tenders may possess more than 4,000 pounds of eviscerated sea cucumbers during an established open fishing period.

Commercial sea cucumber fishermen are also advised that all landings to processors, catcher/processors, or tenders must be recorded on fish tickets with the number of minutes of dive time included. A permit holder who is operating their vessel as a tender for sea cucumbers must complete fish tickets as required by 5 AAC 39.130. A fish ticket must be made out for every landing and all fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of landing.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M3121.

Under Alaska’s Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska’s Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

Fishery Contacts

For information on surveys, biomass estimates, and corresponding GHLS contact:

Juneau

Phone: 465-4250

Contacts: Quinn Smith or Kyle Hebert

For information on management of the sea cucumber fisheries, contact:

Ketchikan

Districts 1–3

Phone: 225-5195

Contacts: Whitney Crittenden, Bo Meredith, or Justin Breese

Petersburg

District 6

Phone: 772-3801

Contacts: Katie Taylor, Paul Salomone, or Tom Kowalske

Sitka

District 13 and 12 (Kelp Bay)

Phone: 747-6688

Contacts: Aaron Dupuis or Jason Jones

Juneau

District 12 (Tenakee)

Phone: 465-4250

Contacts: Scott Forbes or Dave Harris

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

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