

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game
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Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: September 16, 2021

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2020/21 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GEODUCK CLAM FISHERY

The following area will be open for the commercial harvesting of geoduck clams for live sale from **6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. each day on: Friday, September 17; Saturday, September 18; Sunday, September 19; Monday, September 20; and Tuesday, September 21, 2021:**

Biorka Channel and Legma Island Area (Subdistrict 113-31-003): will be open for the remainder of the guideline harvest level of 1,975 pounds of whole geoduck clams.

Additional regulations and descriptions of the above area can be found in the Advisory Announcement dated August 12, 2021.

Geoduck divers are advised to review 5 AAC 38.142. SOUTHEAST ALASKA GEODUCK FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN in the 2019-2021 Commercial Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet. Divers are reminded that a permit holder may not harvest, land, or possess more than 1,000 pounds of whole and unshucked geoducks during any weekly fishing period.

By regulation, all geoducks harvested must be clearly labeled with the date of harvest, the harvester's name, and the location of harvest.

In order to facilitate weekly sampling schedules, the department must receive timely information about the daily harvest by area. Divers are requested to contact the company buying their geoducks with an estimate of pounds harvested. All companies buying geoduck clams must contact the Fish and Game Sitka office before 12:00 noon on Thursday, September 23, 2021, with a harvest estimate by area.

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/>.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M3721.

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