



## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: September 19, 2022*

**CONTACT: Zane Chapman**

**Region I Shellfish Biologist**

**zane.chapman@alaska.gov**

**(907) 465-4274**

## **SOUTHEAST ALASKA 2022/2023 COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB FALL/WINTER FISHERY AND REGULATORY CLOSED AREAS UPDATE**

As previously announced for the 2022 commercial Dungeness crab fishery, in accordance with the Southeast Alaska Dungeness Crab Management Plan [5 AAC 32.146(3)], the department has completed an analysis of the incidence of legal-size male soft-shelled crabs caught early in the summer season. Based on the data from port sampling and fish tickets, the department has determined that soft-shelled crab not retained during the first week of the season were a contributing factor in failing to meet the 2.25-million-pound threshold described in the Southeast Alaska Dungeness Crab Management Plan. Therefore, per 5 AAC 32.146(3), the commercial Dungeness crab fall fishing season will occur with the standard duration described in 5 AAC 32.110 and all waters open to commercial Dungeness crab fishing will open at **8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 1, 2022.**

### **Lost Gear**

Reporting of lost pots should be directed to your local Alaska Wildlife Trooper (AWT) office in the following locations:

- Haines (907) 766-2533
- Juneau (907) 465-4000
- Petersburg (907) 772-3983
- Wrangell (907) 874-3215
- Sitka (907) 747-3254
- Ketchikan (907) 225-5111

Regulations adopted at the 2022 Southeast Board of Fisheries meeting will become effective **September 25, 2022**, (<https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=207942>) and are summarized as follows for the Southeast Alaska commercial Dungeness crab fishery:

### **Closed Waters for Shinaku Inlet, Whale Pass, and Natzuhini Bay**

- Waters near and surrounding Klawock; enclosed by a line from a point east of Entrance Point at 55°31.20' N lat, 133°07.63' W long, extending to a point in Shinaku Inlet at 55°34.72' N lat, 133°13.38' W long,
- Waters of Whale Pass north and west of a line extending from a point at 56°05.81' N lat, 133°06.52' W long, to a point located at 56°05.62' N lat, 133°07.33' W long,
- Waters of Sukwaan Strait from Saltery Point at 55°10.95' N lat, 132°48.02' W long, to a point on Sukkwan Island at 55°10.40' N lat, 132°48.62' W long, north to the head of Natzuhini Bay, extending west to the openings of North Pass from a point on Prince of Wales Island at 55°12.61' N lat, 132°57.68' W long, to a point on Goat Island at 55°12.43' N lat, 132°56.30' W long, and South Pass from a point on Goat Island at 55°10.11' N lat, 132°53.60' W long, to a point on Sukkwan Island at 55°09.78' N lat, 132°53.43' W long.

### **Additional Closed Waters**

Regulatory closed waters within Registration Area A are listed in 5 AAC 32.150. Waters of Glacier Bay are closed by federal regulation to commercial Dungeness crab fishing. Fishermen may contact the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve at (907) 697-2230 for more information.

Fishermen are reminded the Annette Islands Reserve is a federally recognized Indian reservation in Alaska. The waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island, Ham Island, Hemlock Island, Spire Island, Walker Island, Lewis Island, and adjacent rocks and islets are designated within the fishing reserve. Fisheries within the reserve are managed by the Metlakatla Indian Community for authorized fisheries participants. For more information on these closed waters, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) office of law enforcement at (907) 247-5804.

# **Waters of Registration Area A Closed to Commercial Dungeness Crab Fishing** **Refer to 5 AAC 32.150 for Legal Descriptions**

Note: Please refer to the Federal regulations regarding commercial fishing boundaries within the Glacier Bay National Park. For more information regarding current and legal Federal boundaries of Glacier Bay National Park, please call (907) 697-2230.

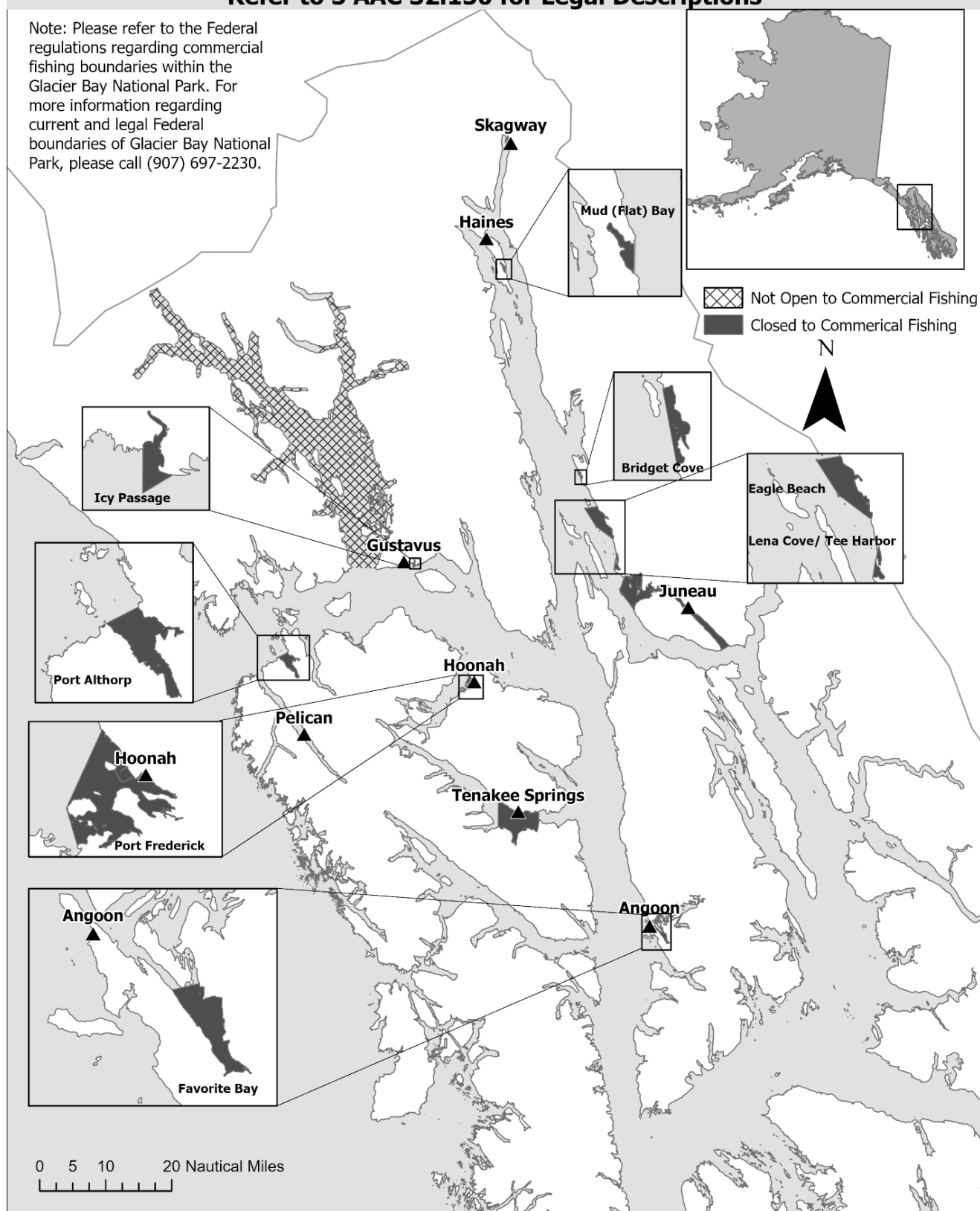


Figure 1: Closed areas for the 2022/23 commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the northern portion of Registration Area A. This map is intended for general reference only. Please refer to 5 AAC 32.150 for legal descriptions of closed areas.

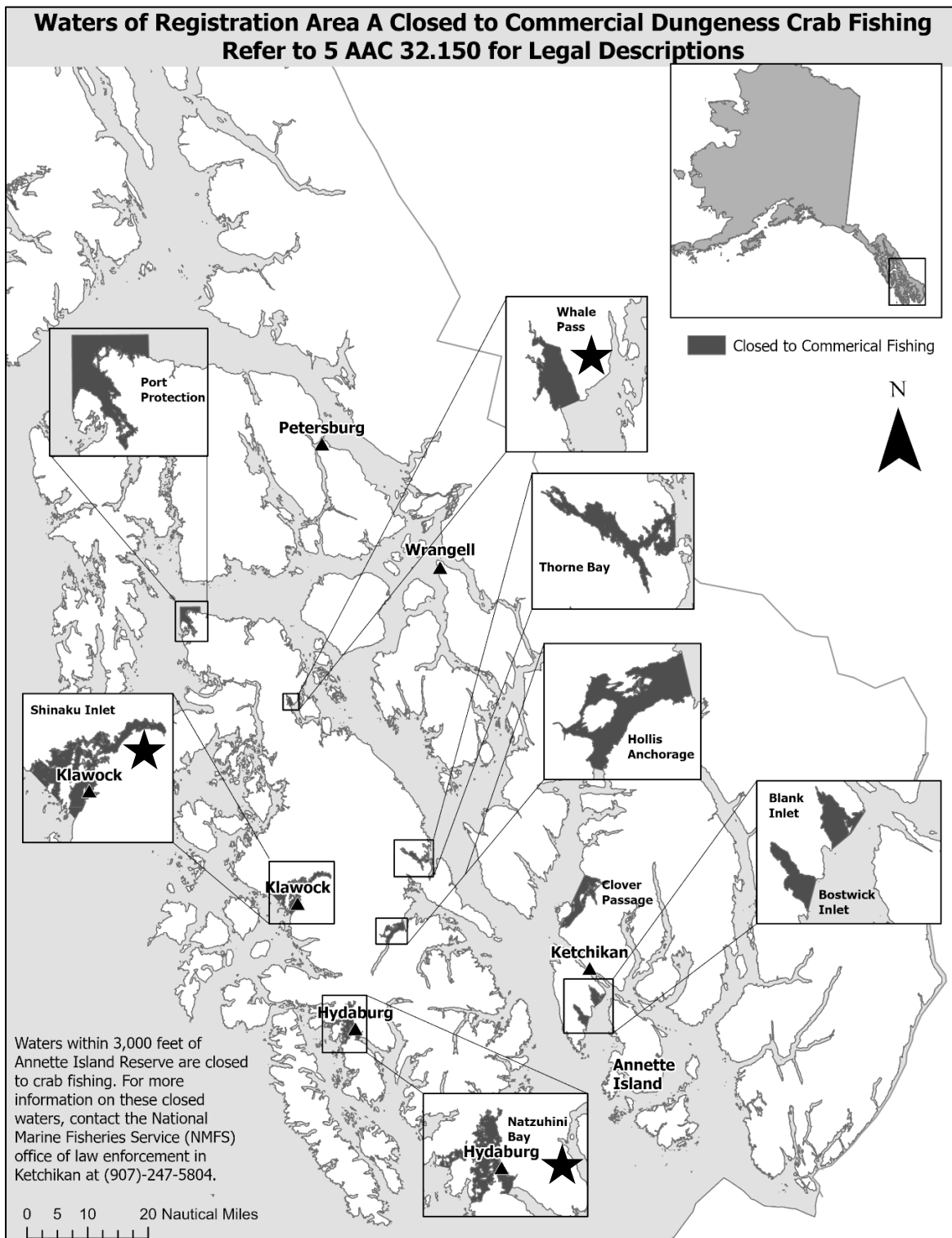


Figure 2: Closed areas for the 2022/23 commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the southern portion of Registration Area A. The stars mark the newly closed areas which go into effect on Sunday, September 25, 2022. This map is intended for general reference only. Please refer to 5 AAC 32.150 for legal descriptions of closed areas.

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	784-3220