Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: March 2, 2023

2022/23 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The following area will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2023, and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 7, 2023:

District 11

Southern Lynn Canal, East Mansfield Peninsula, and Auke Bay (Subdistrict 111-50).

The following areas will be open with a 2,500-pound area specific trip limit from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, Monday, March 6, and Tuesday, March 7, 2023:

District 12

Freshwater Bay and Western Chatham Strait (Subdistricts 112-12, 13, and 50);

Howard Bay and Couverden Island area (portions of Subdistricts 112-15 and 61 and 114-25).

The following areas will be open with a 2,500-pound area specific trip limit from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, Monday, March 6, Tuesday, March 7, and Wednesday, March 8, 2023:

District 1

East Behm Canal and Smeaton Bay (Subdistricts 101-51 and 55);

Rudyerd Bay, East Behm Canal, and Walker Cove (Subdistricts 101-51, 60, 71, and 73);

North Behm Canal (Subdistrict 101-80).

There are currently no processors interested in purchasing sea cucumbers from the Sitka management area. The guideline harvest level from this area will be available until the season closes by regulation on March 31, 2023. The department will consider reopening this area if there is expressed interest. Interested divers and processors should contact Area Management staff with plans prior to 12:00 noon on Thursday for a potential fishery the following week.

For a description of the above areas, please refer to the Southeast Alaska commercial sea cucumber fishery announcement dated August 26, 2022, announcing the open areas and their guideline harvest levels (GHL). The next advisory announcement following this opening will be available on Thursday, March 9, 2023.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M1423.

2022/23 Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Fishery Statistical Week 9

| | Statistical | | Harvest | Remaining | |
|--|--------------------|-----------|---------|------------------|--|
| Area Description | Area(s) | GHL | to Date | GHL | |
| Willard and Fillmore Inlets | 101-11-002 | 52,200 | 50,076 | CLOSED | |
| Revilla Channel and S Clarence Strait | 101-21 | 51,300 | 41,007 | CLOSED | |
| Revilla Channel and Felice Strait | 101-23 | 226,100 | 221,460 | CLOSED | |
| George Inlet, Bold Island, and Carroll Inlet | 101-40,44,45,46,48 | 187,300 | 181,078 | 78 CLOSED | |
| Tongass Narrows | 101-47 | 95,900 | 91,370 | CLOSED | |
| East Behm Canal and Smeaton Bay | 101-51,55 | 91,800 | *** | *** | |
| Rudyerd Bay, E Behm, Walker Cove | 101-51,60,71,73 | 53,600 | *** | *** | |
| North Behm Canal | 101-80 | 73,100 | *** | *** | |
| Cholmondeley Sound | 102-40 | 227,500 | 224,883 | CLOSED | |
| Clarence Strait | 102-50 | 111,000 | 104,988 | CLOSED | |
| Northern Clarence Strait | 106-10,20,22,25 | 170,700 | 180,318 | CLOSED | |
| Eastern Baranof Island | 109-20 | 45,800 | *** | *** | |
| Pybus Bay and The Brothers Islands | 110-21,22 | 98,800 | 94,393 | CLOSED | |
| S Lynn Canal, E Manfield, and Auke Bay | 111-50 | 20,900 | *** | *** | |
| Freshwater Bay and W Chatham Strait | 112-12,13,50 | 133,400 | *** | *** | |
| Howard Bay and Couverden Island | 112-15,61;114-25 | 26,900 | *** | *** | |
| E Chatham, Wilson, Whitewater & Chaik | 112-18,19,80,90 | 42,700 | 40,131 | CLOSED | |
| Sitka, Krestof, and Nakwasina Sound | 113-40,41,42,43 | 134,600 | 135,825 | CLOSED | |
| Hoonah Sound | 113-55,56,57,58 | 118,700 | 116,908 | CLOSED | |
| Totals | | 1,962,300 | *** | *** | |

^{***} Confidential data

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 | 784-3255 |