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Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: May 5, 2023

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Prince William Sound Area
Shrimp Pot Fishery
Second Fishing Period Extended
Emergency Order 2-SF-E-07-23

The first period of the Prince William Sound (PWS) commercial shrimp pot season opened at 8:00 am April 15 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 63,100 lb and closed at 8:00 p.m. April 24. The preliminary estimated harvest from call-in is approximately 26,500 lb of whole shrimp harvested by 65 vessels. Estimated effort was 17,700 pot lifts with an average catch per unit effort (CPUE) of 1.5 lb of whole shrimp per pot.

Effort has decreased during the second period of the season which **opened 8:00 a.m. May 1; this period will be extended until September 15, 2023 unless closed earlier by emergency order.** ADF&G staff will closely monitor the harvest through call-in reports and fish tickets. Gear limits remain at a maximum of 25 shrimp pots per vessel and hours of gear operation are 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The area open to commercial fishing is Area 2 (Figure 1). Participants are reminded that only 50% of the GHL may be harvested in any one statistical area (5 AAC 31.214) and to monitor advisory announcements for potential statistical area closures.

Participating fishers must call the reporting line with pre-trip and landing reports at (907) 226-3474 in order for ADF&G to monitor harvest; information to be reported is detailed in the registration packet that all registrants received. Reporting requirements must be followed exactly, and enforcement action will result for non-compliance. Contact ADF&G at (907) 235-8191 for further information.

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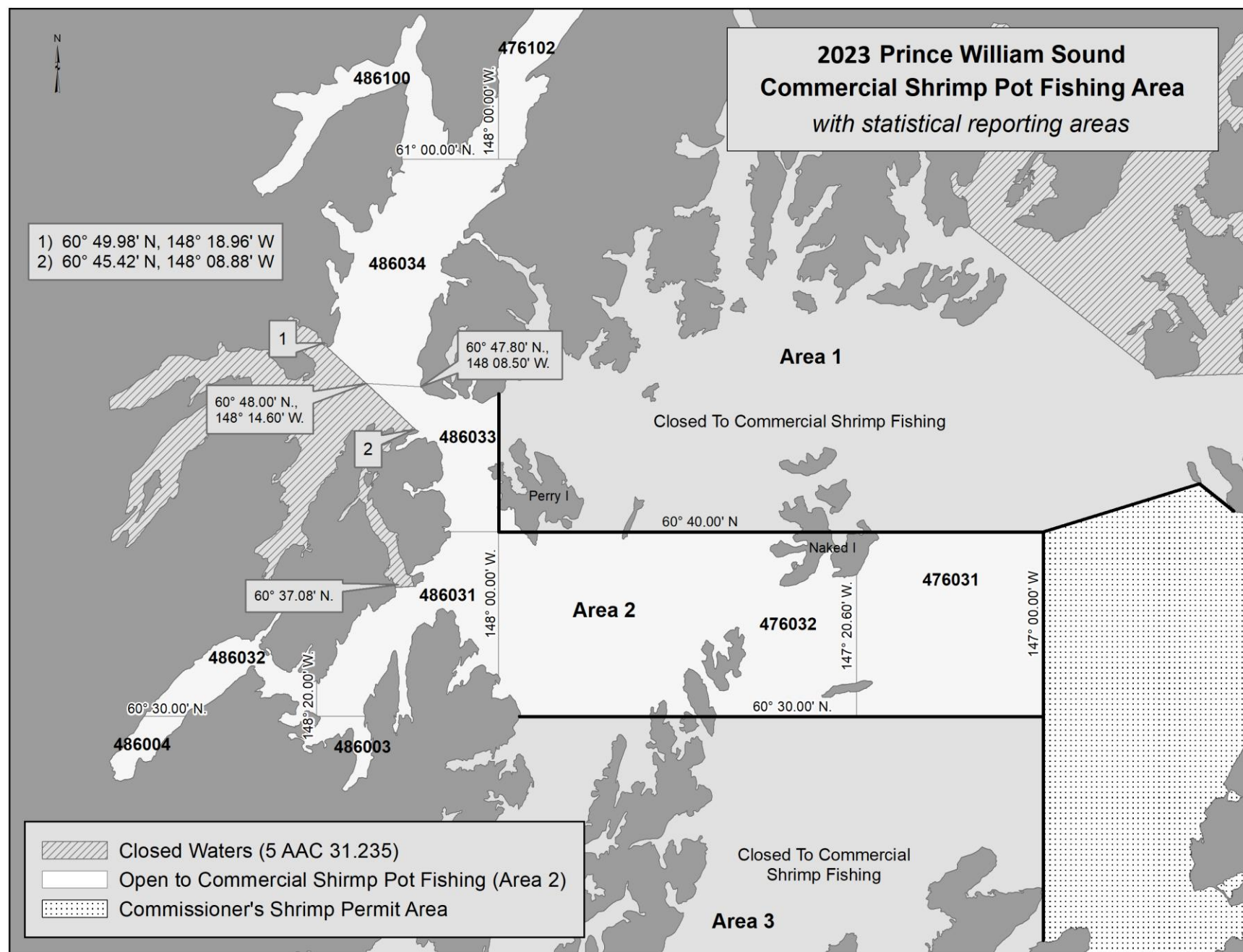


Figure 1.—The 2023 Prince William Sound Area shrimp pot fishery in Area 2.