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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: June 1, 2023 CONTACT: Adam Messmer Region I Shellfish Biologist adam.messmer@alaska.gov (907) 465-4853

## SOUTHEAST ALASKA GOLDEN KING CRAB PERSONAL USE FISHERY

The 2023/2024 Southeast Alaska personal use golden king crab (GKC) fishery in Registration Area A (Southeast Alaska) will open at 12:01 a.m., July 1, 2023. Alaska residents fishing for GKC must have an Alaska Department of Fish and Game 2023/2024 Southeast Alaska Regional Personal Use King Crab Permit [5 AAC 77.664(a)] in their possession.

The permit is free and available through the department's online store at: <u>www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/</u>. Personal use fishermen must sign their permit to make it valid and have the permit along with a current sport fishing license in their possession while taking part in personal use king crab fisheries in Southeast Alaska. Regional personal use king crab permits are valid for GKC in all open areas. Permits must be filled out each time king crab pots or ring nets are retrieved (or dive gear is used) whether king crab are harvested or not. Permit holders are required to report their harvest either online any time at: <u>https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest/</u> or by turning in the completed permit at the end of the season.

## Survey and Fishery Information:

Golden king crab may be taken from July 1 through June 15 [5 AAC 77.664(c)(2)]. The bag and possession limit for all species of king crab in combination (including GKC) is three crab per person, however the bag and possession limit for red king crab (RKC) and blue king crab (BKC) has been reduced to one RKC or BKC. Because the RKC and BKC bag and possession limit has been reduced, the bag limit for GKC is three crab or two crab if the fisherman also possesses one RKC or BKC. The department used GKC commercial fisheries data from 2022 to set bag and possession limits and determine open areas for the GKC personal use fishery in Southeast Alaska. Refer to Figure 1 for a map showing waters of Southeast Alaska open to the retention of personal use GKC.

## **Other Information:**

For additional information visit the Southeast Alaska Personal Use King Crab Fishery web site:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=PersonalUsebyAreasoutheastkingCrab.regs. Please refer to 5 AAC 77.664 in the 2022-2023 Statewide Subsistence and Personal Use Fishing Regulations booklet for additional regulations regarding personal use king crab fishing, or view the regulations online at:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.commercial.

Analysis of the 2023 GKC commercial fishery data will be completed by mid-December. Any changes to the 2023/2024 Southeast Alaska personal use golden king crab fishery will be announced at that time.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C1523.

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

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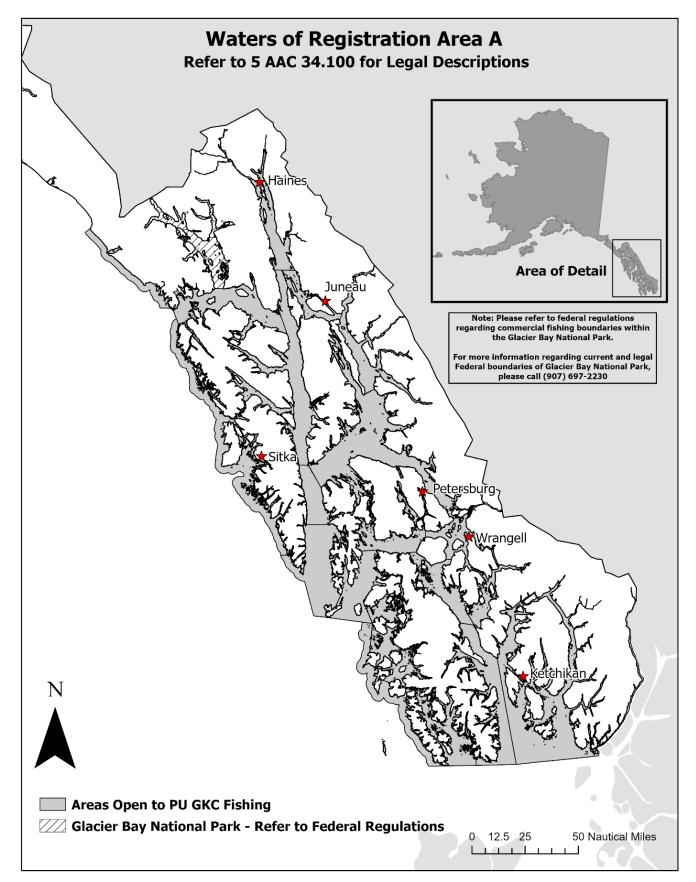


Figure 1. This map shows open areas for the 2023/2024 GKC personal use fishery and is for reference purposes only.