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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release:*

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## 2023/24 Alaska Weathervane Scallop Guideline Harvest Levels

The 2023/24 weathervane scallop fisheries in the Yakutat, Prince William Sound (PWS; West Kayak Subsection only), Kodiak, Alaska Peninsula, Dutch Harbor, and Bristol Bay–Bering Sea Areas will open on July 1, 2023. The Cook Inlet Area and PWS East Kayak Subsection will be closed for the 2023/24 season. Guideline harvest levels (GHLs) and crab bycatch limits for the 2023/24 scallop season are listed below.

Registration Area/District	Guideline Harvest Level (pounds of shucked meat)	Crab Bycatch Limit (number of crab)	
		Tanner crab	King crab
Yakutat	145,000	NA	NA
Prince William Sound			
East Kayak Subsection	Closed	-	-
West Kayak Subsection	7,200	NA	NA
Cook Inlet	Closed	-	-
Kodiak			
Northeast District	40,000	24,000	25
Shelikof District	100,000	60,000	25
Southwest District	35,000	21,000	25
Southeast District	15,000	9,000	25
Semidi District	<i>Exploratory area</i>	NA	NA
Alaska Peninsula			
long 160° W to 161° W	7,500	4,500	25
Unimak Bight <sup>a</sup>	7,500	4,500	25
Dutch Harbor			
Bering Sea Waters	5,000	3,750	10
Pacific Ocean Waters	5,000	3,750	10
Bristol Bay-Bering Sea	7,500	18,750	100
		<i>C. opilio and hybrids</i>	
		11,250	

<sup>a</sup> Commissioner permit required to harvest scallops in Unimak Bight.

NA = Not applicable

Vessel operators must obtain separate scallop interim-use dredge gear permit cards for state and federal waters from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) and a vessel registration from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) prior to participating in the scallop fishery. Vessels are required to have an activated vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard and to carry an onboard observer during all fishing activity. Vessels may not operate more than two dredges at one time and dredges may not be more than 15 feet wide.

ADF&G will assess inseason fishery performance as measured by catch per unit effort (CPUE) and monitor crab bycatch. Poor fishery performance or excessive crab bycatch may result in area, or partial area, closures prior to achieving the full GHLL.

Area specific scallop fishery, survey, and stock status information is presented in the *Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report for the Scallop Fishery of the Coast of Alaska (March 2023)* published by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) which may be found here:

<https://meetings.npfmc.org/CommentReview/DownloadFile?p=976bb712-54ab-42a3-829b-1bb989cb3877.pdf&fileName=Scallop%20SAFE%202023.pdf>

**For additional information, contact ADF&G in Kodiak (907-486-1840) , Dutch Harbor (907-581-1239), Homer (907-235-8191), or Petersburg (907-772-5238).**

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