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## Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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Advisory Announcement

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## 2024 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERY MID-CHATHAM STRAIT AREA CLOSURE

The commercial golden king crab fishery in the Mid-Chatham Strait management area will close at **12:00 noon, Monday, March 18, 2024**. Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest is expected to reach the 30,000-pound guideline harvest level for the Mid-Chatham management area by the closure date. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

The department will continue to monitor fishery performance via harvest ticket/logbook and port sampling data for the remaining open management areas: Icy Strait, North Stephens Passage, Lower Chatham, Strait and Southern. Additional management actions may be taken as necessary, and the department will provide as much advance notice as possible for future area closures.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days following the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the Mid-Chatham Strait management area no later than 12:00 noon, March 23, 2024.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C1024.

Advisory announcement web site: <a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</a>.

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