Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: March 14, 2024 CONTACT: Troy Thynes Region I Management Coordinator troy.thynes@alaska.gov (907) 772-3801

2023/24 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following areas will be closed for the remainder of the 2023/24 season:

District 12:

Northern Chatham Strait (Subdistricts 112-16, 17, 63, and 65);

District 14:

Excursion Inlet and Homeshore (Subdistricts 114-25-002 and 114-80).

The following area will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2024, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, 2024:

District 1:

Boca de Quadra (Subdistrict 101-30).

The following area will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 17, Monday, March 18, and Tuesday, March 19, 2024:

District 13:

Baranof Island Shoreline, Necker and Rakof Islands, West Crawfish Inlet, and Crawfish Inlet (Subdistricts 113-31, 32, and 33).

There is currently limited interest in purchasing sea cucumbers in the region. The remaining guideline harvest level (GHL) from South Mitkof and North Zarembo Islands (Subdistrict 108-30) will be available until the season closes by regulation on March 31, 2024. The department will consider reopening this area if there is expressed interest. Interested divers and processors should contact Petersburg Area Management staff with plans prior to 12:00 noon on Thursday for a potential fishery the following week.

Fishers and processors are reminded that an accurate fish ticket is required at the time of delivery. A fish ticket must be filled out according to 5 AAC 39.130(c). Fishers must verify at the time of landing with the tender or processor that all information is accurate before signing the fish ticket, including statistical area, pounds of sea cucumbers harvested, and any overages.

For a description of the above areas, please refer to the Southeast Alaska commercial sea cucumber fishery announcement dated August 31, 2023, announcing the open areas and their GHLs. The next advisory announcement following this opening will be available on **Thursday, March 21, 2024**.

Statistical Week 11									
	Statistical		Harvest	Remaining					
Area Description	Area(s)	GHL	to Date	GHL					
West Shore of Gravina Island	101-29	63,700	59,849	CLOSED					
Boca De Quadra	101-30	75,700	***	***					
Revilla Channel, Thorne Arm & East Behm	101-41, 43, and 53	107,000	104,820	CLOSED					
West Behm Canal	101-85	47,200	44,989	CLOSED					
Moira Sound	102-30	146,100	143,713	CLOSED					
Thorne Bay & Kasaan Peninsula	102-70	65,600	65,772	CLOSED					
East Dall Island & Soda Bay	103-40	108,000	109,141	CLOSED					
Southern Ernest Sound	107-10	79,700	84,356	CLOSED					
Northern Ernest Sound	107-20	229,400	229,085	CLOSED					
Zimovia Strait & Anita Bay	107-30 and 35	79,300	78,868	CLOSED					
Bradfield, Blake & Eastern Passage	107-40 and 45	29,500	28,524	CLOSED					
Stikine Strait & Chichagof Passage	108-10, 20, and 40	22,800	21,432	CLOSED					
South Mitkof & North Zarembo	108-30	11,400	***	***					
Southeast Baranof	109-10	21,400	19,363	CLOSED					
Seymour Canal	111-11 and 14	129,200	118,103	CLOSED					
Northern Chatham Strait	112-16, 17, 63, and 65	72,300	74,205	CLOSED					
Baranof, Necker, Crawfish & W Crawfish	113-31, 32, and 33	107,400	***	***					
Sitka Sound	113-38 and 41	49,300	49,520	CLOSED					
Peril Strait	113-51, 52, 53, 54, and 59	209,800	208,127	CLOSED					
Excursion Inlet & Homeshore	114-25-002 and 114-80	18,200	16,580	CLOSED					
Totals		1,673,000	1,623,610	27,337					
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2023/24 Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Fishery

*** Confidential data

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1M1824.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
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