ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Dan Gray

Phone: (907) 747-6688

Fax: (907) 747-6693

Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Room 103 Sitka, Alaska 99835 Date: February 19, 2014

Time: 9:30 a.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL POT SHRIMP ANNOUNCEMENT FISHERY CLOSURE

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today announced the closure of the commercial pot shrimp fishery and the following information concerning the 2013/2014 winter season.

The following areas will close by regulation at 4:00 p.m., February 28, 2014:

District 4: Estimated harvest: 10,000 pounds, 10,000 pounds remaining. District 4 is not expected to reopen by emergency order on May 15, 2014.

District 5: Estimated harvest: 3,000 pounds, 17,000 pounds remaining. District 5 is expected to reopen by emergency order on May 15, 2014.

District 15 (Remainder): Estimated harvest: confidential. District 15 is not expected to reopen by emergency order on May 15, 2014.

The Department will announce areas open for the summer fishery no later than May 1, 2014. By May 1, the Department will have completed processing of shrimp samples taken from the fisheries and surveys and will have had to time to analyze all available harvest and biological data for areas with remaining quota. Areas that are determined to have less than desirable stock health or areas that have low remaining quota will not reopen for the summer fishery.

All shrimp pot gear must be removed from the water or placed in storage by the time of the closure. Pots may be stored in the waters of Districts 4, 5, and 15 (west of a line from Little Island light to Seduction Point) until 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 7, 2014. Stored pots must have all doors secured fully open and all bait and bait containers removed.

Shrimp tickets must be submitted to an ADF&G office within seven days of the closure. Fishermen are reminded that catcher sellers intending to sell shrimp to persons unlicensed to process shrimp (i.e. dock sales) must fill out an ADF&G fish ticket indicating the weight of the shrimp on board, by species, before any shrimp are removed from the vessel [5 AAC 31.143.(d)].

Catcher processor vessels fishing in these areas are required to contact ADF&G and report within 72 hours of the closure. Catcher processor vessels must report the pounds in whole weight by species of shrimp on board the vessel taken during the open shrimp-fishing period.

	Pounds		
Closed Areas	Harvested	Closure Date	
District 1	54,000	October 14, 2013	
District 2	62,000	October 19, 2013	
Section 3-A	123,000	October 13, 2013	
Section 3-B/C	25,000	October 19, 2013	
District 4	10,000	February 28, 2014	
District 5	3,000	February 28, 2014	
District 6	35,500	October 21, 2013	
District 7	95,000	October 17, 2013	
District 8	12,000	October 28, 2013	
District 9	15,000	October 11, 2013	
District 10	36,000	October 10, 2013	
District 11- Seymour	13,000	October 8, 2013	
District 11 - Remainder	8,500	October 19, 2013	
Section 13-A/B	16,000	November 25, 2011	
Section 13-C	23,000	October 4, 2013	
District 15 (Eastern)	8,200	November 8, 2013	
District 15 (Western)	Confidential	February 28, 2014	
SE Pot Shrimp Est. Harvest	540,000		

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220
Shrimp Hotline	225-6870	772-3700			465-8905		