

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Mark Stichert, Kodiak
Phone: 907-486-1840; Fax: 907-486-1824
Heather Fitch, Dutch Harbor
Phone: 907-581-1239; Fax: 907-581-1572
Maria Wessel, Cordova
Phone: 907-424-3212; Fax: 907-424-3235
Quinn Smith, Douglas
Phone: 907-465-6393; Fax: 907-465-4944

Kodiak Area Office
351 Research Court
Kodiak Alaska, 99615

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Weathervane Scallop State-Waters Preseason Registration Reminder

The State of Alaska vessel-based limited entry permit program for weathervane scallops expired December 30, 2013. Repeal of this program created open access commercial weathervane scallop fisheries inside state waters (0 to 3 nautical miles) of the Yakutat, Prince William Sound, Kodiak, and Dutch Harbor scallop registration areas. In response, the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted the *State-Waters Weathervane Scallop Management Plan* (5 AAC 38.078) in January 2014 to provide additional management tools to regulate open access scallop fisheries in these areas.

One provision of the newly adopted state-waters scallop management plan requires all vessels that intend to target weathervane scallops inside state waters of the Yakutat, Prince William Sound, Kodiak, or Dutch Harbor areas to preseason register with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2014. To preseason register, the vessel operator or authorized agent must complete an ADF&G preseason registration form and possess a valid 2014 interim use state-waters weathervane scallop permit card (W2BSW or W2ASW) issued by the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.

For preseason registration forms or additional information on state-waters scallop fisheries contact ADF&G in Kodiak (907-486-1840), Dutch Harbor (907-581-1239), Cordova (907-424-3212), or Douglas (907-465-6393).