ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY THIRD PERIOD EMERGENCY ORDER 2-SF-E-04-14

The third period of the PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery opened at 8:00 am May 13 and closed at 8:00 p.m. May 22. The current reported harvest during this period is approximately 8,000 lb of whole shrimp harvested by 17 vessels. Total fishery harvest to date is approximately 36,127 lb with approximately 13,900 lb harvested from statistical area 486034. Other significant total harvests by statistical area include approximately 6,000 lb from 486033, 4,800 lb from 486031, 4,000 lb from 486032, and 3,000 lb from 486004.

The fourth period of the PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery will open at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 27.

Statistical area 486034 is expected to reach the 25% harvest limit of 16,650 lb and will close to commercial harvest of shrimp with pot gear at 8:00 p.m. Monday, June 9.

All other statistical areas will remain open until September 15 unless closed earlier by emergency order.

Gear limits remain at a maximum of 50 shrimp pots per vessel. A vessel operator may not have more than the legal limit of pot gear in aggregate, on board the vessel or in the water at any time. Hours of gear operation remain at 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) is 66,600 lb and the department will be managing the fishery inseason to restrict harvest to no more than 25 percent of the GHL (16,650 lb) harvested from any one statistical area (5 AAC 31.214). Inseason measures may include adjusting pot limits, time, and/or statistical area closures in order to remain within the 25 percent statistical area harvest limit. Fishery announcements regarding adjustments will be available on the harvest reporting message line at (907) 424-7215.

In addition to logbook and landing requirements, all participating fishermen must call ADF&G at (907) 424-7215 on Wednesday before noon and report any effort and harvest that has occurred, using the shrimp harvest report form (5 AAC 31.245(c)).

Other pertinent fishery regulations are listed in Chapters 31 and 39 of the **2012-2015 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness Crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations** booklet available at department offices in Anchorage, Cordova, and Homer or at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.commercial. Contact ADF&G at (907) 424-3212 for further information.

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