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



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FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY HOURS OF GEAR OPERATION INCREASED EMERGENCY ORDER 2-SF-E-06-14

Hours of gear operation in the Prince William Sound commercial shrimp pot fishery are increased to 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., effective 6:00 a.m. June 14.

The fourth period of the PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery opened at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 27 and will close when the 66,600 lb guideline harvest level is achieved, on September 15, or earlier by emergency order. Because 5 AAC 31.214 limits harvest in any one statistical area to no more than 25% (16,575 lb) of the overall GHL, statistical areas may be closing independently within the open area. Approximately 16,778 lb has been harvested from statistical area 486034 and this statistical area will remain closed for the duration of the season.

Currently, the reported harvest during the fourth period is approximately 5,815 lb of whole shrimp harvested by 12 vessels in 19 landings. Overall fishery harvest is approximately 46,096 lb harvested by 27 vessels in 154 landings. Average catch per unit effort (CPUE) is 1.59 lb of whole shrimp per pot. Other significant overall approximate harvests by statistical area include 6,933 lb from 486033, 4,810 lb from 486031, 4,711 lb from 486032, 4,535 from 486003 and 5,417 lb from 486004.

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 <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.commercial</u>. Contact ADF&G at (907) 424-3212 for further information.

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