

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



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Nome ADF&G
PO Box 1148
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Date Issued: 7/30/2014
Time: 12:00 noon

NORTON SOUND COMMERCIAL OPEN ACCESS KING CRAB FISHERY TO CLOSE

The summer commercial open access king crab fishery in Norton Sound will close at 12:00 noon Saturday, August 2. All pot gear must have doors open and bait containers removed by 12:00 noon Saturday, August 2, **except those crabbers registered with Fish & Game to fish CDQ crab**. All open-access crab must be delivered by 12:00 noon Sunday, August 3. Even though the marine forecast is for 15 knots or less the rest of the week, crabbers are advised to keep a close watch on the weather and pull their pots earlier if necessary.

Through 11am today the reported harvest in the Norton Sound summer commercial open access fishery was approximately 286,000 pounds of red king crab, with approximately 68,000 pounds remaining of the open access quota. Based on the current catch rate and no adverse weather conditions expected for the rest of the week, the guideline harvest level for 2014 open access fishery of 354,090 pounds is expected to be reached by this weekend.

All open-access permit holders must pull all their pots out of the water by Saturday, August 9. In the event of mechanical difficulties and another vessel is needed to pull your pots, please notify Jim Menard in the ADF&G office in advance.

Of the 28,710 pounds allocated to the CDQ fishery, approximately 6,300 pounds have been harvested to date, with slightly over 22,000 pounds remaining of the CDQ quota. So far, 2 crabbers have registered with Fish & Game to fish CDQ crab.

For further information please contact the Nome office at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271 or the Unalakleet office at 907-624-3921.

Good Luck, Good Crabbing and Safe Travels.

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