## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

## **NEWS RELEASE**



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact: Bo Meredith

Phone: (907) 225-5195 Fax: (907) 22-3756 Ketchikan Area Office 2030 Sea Level Drive #205 Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 Date: October 9, 2014 Time: 2:45 p.m.

## COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT DISTRICT 2: KASAAN BAY AND SKOWL ARM CLOSURE

Ketchikan. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the waters of Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm (Subdistrict 102-60), which includes those waters west of a line from a point on the southwest side of Kasaan Peninsula at 55°27.93′ N. latitude, 132°11.92′ W. longitude, to a point near Skowl Point at 55°25.00′ N. latitude, 132°15.50′ W. longitude, will close to commercial pot shrimp fishing effective 4:00 p.m., Sunday, October 12, 2014.

Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm (Subdistrict 102-60) is being closed as a conservation measure to protect this localized shrimp stock from additional fishing pressure. Commercial harvest rates have been in decline over the past several years. The pre-season survey the department has conducted over the past four seasons has also shown a precipitous decline in the catch rates of spot shrimp as well as a decline in biological parameters.

All shrimp pot gear must be removed from the waters of Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm or placed in storage by the time of this closure. Pots may be stored in the waters of Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm until 4:00 p.m., Sunday, October 19, 2014. Stored pots must have all doors secured fully open and all bait and bait containers removed.

Shrimp tickets must be submitted to an Alaska Department of Fish and Game office within seven days of the closure. Fishermen are reminded that catcher/sellers that are 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)].

<u>All commercial shrimp fishermen</u> are required to notify the department within two business days of deploying gear and within two business days after ceasing fishing in a district, or portion of a district, with a GHL. <u>Catcher/Processor and Catcher/Seller</u> vessels must report, weekly, the pounds in whole weight by species of shrimp on board the vessel taken during the open shrimp-fishing period. The department is implementing these requirements in order to more effectively track effort and harvest in the fishery. For further details refer to the News Release dated September 10, 2014.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C2514.

News releases web site: <a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</a>.

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