

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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PO Box 1148
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Date Issued: 7/21/2015
Time: 11:00 AM

NORTON SOUND SUMMER COMMERCIAL KING CRAB FISHERY TO CLOSE

The summer commercial king crab fishery in Norton Sound will close at 12:00 noon Friday, July 24. All pot gear must have doors open and bait containers removed by 12:00 noon Friday, July 24. All crab must be delivered by 12:00 noon Saturday, July 25. Even though the marine forecast is for 20 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 10:00 am today the reported harvest in the Norton Sound summer commercial fishery was approximately 332,000 pounds of king crab (including the 29,595 pounds allocated to the CDQ fishery), with approximately 62,000 pounds remaining of the total guideline harvest level (GHL). Based on the current catch rate, the total GHL of 394,600 pounds for 2015 is expected to be reached in three days.

All commercial crab permit holders must pull all their pots out of the water by Friday, August 1. 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.

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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