
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
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Time: 9:15 a.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL POT SHRIMP ANNOUNCEMENT FISHERY CLOSURE

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today announced the closure of the commercial pot shrimp fishery and the following information concerning the 2015/2016 winter season.

The following areas will close by regulation at 4:00 p.m., February 28, 2016:

District 4: Estimated harvest: 6,000 pounds, 14,000 pounds remaining. District 4 is not expected to reopen by emergency order on May 15, 2016.

District 5: Estimated harvest: 2,600 pounds, 9,400 pounds remaining. District 5 is expected to reopen by emergency order on May 15, 2016.

District 15: Estimated harvest: eastern portion: 7,500 pounds, 0 pounds remaining; western portion: confidential. District 15 (western portion) is expected to reopen by emergency order on May 15, 2016.

The Department will announce areas open for the summer fishery no later than May 1, 2016. By May 1, the Department will have completed processing of shrimp samples taken from the fisheries and surveys and will have had to time to analyze all available harvest and biological data for areas with remaining quota. Areas that are determined to have less than desirable stock health or areas that have low remaining quota will not reopen for the summer fishery.

All shrimp pot gear must be removed from the water or placed in storage by the time of the closure. Pots may be stored in the waters of Districts 4, 5, and 15 until 4:00 p.m., Sunday, March 6, 2016. Stored pots must have all doors secured fully open and all bait and bait containers removed.

Shrimp tickets must be submitted to an ADF&G office within seven days of the closure. Fishermen are reminded that catcher sellers 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)].

Catcher processor vessels fishing in these areas are required to contact ADF&G and report within 72 hours of the closure. Catcher processor vessels must report the pounds in whole weight by species of shrimp on board the vessel taken during the open shrimp-fishing period.

Closed Areas	Pounds Harvested	Closure Date
District 1	63,300	October 19, 2015
District 2	39,200	October 26, 2015
Section 3-A	116,200	October 14, 2015
Section 3-B/C	30,500	October 18, 2015
District 4	6,000	February 28, 2016
District 5	2,600	February 28, 2016
District 6	28,000	October 23, 2015
District 7	79,000	October 12, 2015
District 8	10,100	October 22, 2015
District 9	12,200	October 8, 2015
District 10	33,500	October 15, 2015
District 11– Seymour	12,000	October 11, 2016
District 11 – Remainder	6,400	November 4, 2015
District 12 – Remainder	5,100	October 9, 2015
Section 13-A/B	13,500	October 30, 2015
Section 13-C	26,100	October 5, 2015
District 15 (Eastern)	7,500	February 28, 2016
District 15 (Western)	Confidential	February 28, 2016
SE Pot Shrimp Est. Harvest	491,200	

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

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220
<i>Shrimp Hotline</i>	225-6870				465-8905		