

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director*



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OVER ONE-HALF CDQ NORTON SOUND RED KING CRAB ALLOCATION CAUGHT

The 2016 red king crab commercial Community Development Quota (CDQ) allocation for Norton Sound is 38,790 pounds. Including the deliveries made through April 10, 21,813 pounds, or 56% of the CDQ red king crab allocation has been harvested by 24 registered permit holders. Roughly 17,000 pounds of the allocation remain. The winter CDQ commercial fishery will continue until the winter season closes by regulation on April 30, or earlier if deteriorating ice conditions suggest there is a strong likelihood of large pot losses. Additionally, the CDQ buyer can manage their quota as they see fit and can therefore suspend buying operations for any reason at any time.

Commercial fishing for CDQ crab is open to all residents 18 years or older of NSEDC's 15 member communities who qualify to obtain a CDQ gear permit card and who sign the 2016 NSEDC Norton Sound Red King Crab Fisherman's Agreement and NSEDC Residency Verification forms. Interested fishermen should contact NSEDC at 443-2477 if they have questions about the process of becoming eligible to fish for CDQ red king crab. Crabbers interested in participating in the CDQ fishery need to register their CDQ cards with the department. Village residents can call the Fish & Game office to register. Permit holders must have their permit card in possession and be present any time pot gear is being operated, and can only be assisted by licensed crew members. Crewmembers cannot deploy or operate gear on their own. For further information please contact the Nome office at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271.

Good Luck, Good Crabbing and Be Safe Out There!