
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: 3:45 p.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today announced that the Southeast Alaska commercial pot shrimp season will re-open by emergency order on Sunday, May 15, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. in the following districts:

District 4: will be open for the remaining GHL of 13,000 pounds.

District 5: will be open for the remaining GHL of 9,400 pounds.

District 15 (western side only): will be open for the remaining GHL of 7,400 pounds west of a line from Little Island Light north to the southernmost tip of Seduction Point.

Districts 4, 5, and 15 will be closed by emergency order when the guideline harvest level for each district is reached. If the guideline harvest level is not reached, the districts will be closed by emergency order on Sunday, July 31, 2016. All other districts will remain closed until October 1, 2016.

2015/2016 Fishing Season and Fishing Periods

The Alaska Board of Fisheries addressed proposals relating to Registration Area A pot shrimp fishery regulation changes at its January 2015 meeting in Wrangell. Reporting requirements for commercial pot shrimp fishing were amended and catcher processors are now required to fill out logbooks. Logbook information will be included on daily fish tickets. This additional information will include the weight or box count of each size class of whole shrimp that were sorted for sale as well as: date of landing, numbers of days fished, district and statistical area, and the numbers of pot lifts each day. Participants may be required to fill out a logbook registration form that will provide the count of shrimp per box and the size of boxes used. Please contact the ADF&G area office in the area where shrimp fishing is planned for further details.

Operation of shrimp fishing gear may only occur during daily fishing periods from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. [5 AAC 31.124. (e)(5)]. This means that pots may only be hauled or deployed during this eight-hour period each day.

Individuals planning to fish pots for shrimp beginning May 15, 2016, will need to re-register for the fishery since the 2015/2016 registration year for shrimp ended April 14, 2016. Registration is available at any of the Southeast area offices.

Catcher-processors must call and report catch information between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to any Fish and Game area office weekly by 12:00 noon each Wednesday every week they conduct fishing operations. The first call in period will be Wednesday, May 18, and will cover the period from 8:00 a.m., May 15 to May 18. Catcher-sellers are also encouraged to contact the department with catch information by 12:00 noon each Wednesday of every week they fish. Fishermen need to notify the department 72 hours prior to setting gear of the fishermen's intent to fish in an area and no more than 72 hours after stopping operations in an open area. Fishermen are advised that it would be most efficient to contact the Ketchikan office for District 4, the Petersburg office for District 5, and the Haines office for District 15. Fishermen are advised that these reporting requirements are in effect until further notice.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0816.

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>	<i>225-5195</i>	<i>772-3801</i>	<i>874-3822</i>	<i>747-6688</i>	<i>465-4250</i>	<i>766-2830</i>	<i>784-3255</i>
<i>AWT</i>	<i>225-5111</i>	<i>772-3983</i>	<i>874-3215</i>	<i>747-3254</i>	<i>465-4000</i>	<i>766-2533</i>	<i>784-3220</i>