

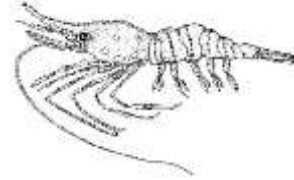
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY

THIRD PERIOD OPENS; STATISTICAL AREA 476036 CLOSED

EMERGENCY ORDER 2-SF-E-04-16

The 2016 PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery opened with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 47,061 lb and a single statistical area limit of 23,530 lb, and the second fishing period closed at 8:00 p.m. May 5. Preliminary reported harvest from vessel call-ins is approximately 14,031 lb of whole shrimp harvested by 31 vessels with approximately 5,770 lb harvested from statistical area 476036. This brings the total preliminary reported harvest in the fishery to 36,096 lb with approximately 24,555 lb harvested from statistical area 476036 (Figure 1).

A third fishing period will open at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 10 and will close at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, May 26. Statistical area 476036 is closed to the commercial harvest of shrimp with pot gear for the remainder of the season, due to attainment of the statistical area limit. Fishermen are advised to check with the department before fishing as **the period may close earlier by emergency order if the GHL is achieved.**

Gear limits remain at a maximum of 30 shrimp pots per vessel. A vessel operator may not have more than the legal limit of pot gear in aggregate, on board the vessel or in the water at any time. Hours of gear operation remain at 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

All participating fishermen must call the reporting line at (907) 424-7215 no earlier than 24 hours before fishing, and report the information detailed on the pre-trip information form (5 AAC 31.245(c)). Additionally, **before landing shrimp, all those operating commercial shrimp pot fishery vessels must call the reporting line** and report the information requested on the harvest reporting form supplied in the registration packet (5 AAC 31.245(b)).

Other pertinent fishery regulations are listed in Chapters 31 and 39 of the **2015-2018 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness Crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations** booklet available at department offices in Anchorage, Cordova, and Homer or at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.commercial>. Contact ADF&G at (907) 424-3212 for further information. -end-

