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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



Contact: Lisa Fox, Area Biologist Colton Lipka, Assistant Area Biologist

Phone: (907) 383-2066 Fax: (907) 383-2606 E-mail: elisabeth.fox@alaska.gov Sand Point Area Office P.O. Box 129 Sand Point, AK 99661

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Dutch Harbor Food and Bait Herring Fishery Announcement #1 For Emergency Order #4-FH-M-SP-01-16

The Unalaska and Akutan districts will open to commercial herring fishing for 24 hours from noon Friday, July 15 until noon Saturday, July 16, 2016.

Fishermen are reminded of the following closed waters: waters of Unalaska Bay, between Unalaska and Amaknak Islands, including Margaret's Bay, west of a line from the "Bishop's House" at 53° 52.64′ N, 166° 32.30′ W to a point on Amaknak Island at 53° 52.82′ N, 166° 32.13′ W and north of a line from a point south of Agnes Beach at 53° 52.28′ N, 166° 32.68′ W to a point at 53° 52.35′ N, 166° 32.95′ W on Amaknak Island.

Each permit holder registered for the fishery is required to report fishing activities and harvest to the department by noon July 16, 2016 regardless of whether or not they fished or harvested herring. Reports should be made to ADF&G in Sand Point by phone at (907) 383-2066.

Commercial fishing periods will be opened and closed by emergency order based upon anticipated fishing effort, harvest rates from previous openings, processing capacity, and herring abundance. The department will notify the fleet of subsequent fishing periods after catch reports are received and the amount of herring harvested during the prior period has been determined.

Prior to participating, fishermen must possess a current Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission permit for the fishery and must register with the department in Sand Point. Processors and tenders must also register with the department prior to taking any herring. Fishermen should have a secure market prior to harvesting any herring.

The 2016 Dutch Harbor food and bait herring fishery allocation is 1,863 tons for purse seine gear and 303 tons for gillnet gear. For further information please contact ADF&G in Sand Point at (907) 383-2066.