

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director*



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Nome ADF&G
PO Box 1148
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Date Issued: 7/18/2016
Time: 4:30PM

NORTON SOUND SUMMER COMMERCIAL KING CRAB FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The summer commercial king crab fishery in Norton Sound will close at 6:00AM Wednesday, July 20. All commercial crabbers are required to have all pot doors open and bait containers removed by 6:00AM Wednesday, July 20. All crabbing vessels must either have their crab delivered by 6:00PM Wednesday July 20, or be waiting at the Nome plant or at a crab tender waiting to offload by 6:00PM Wednesday July 20. The CDQ quota was reached on July 8, and the CDQ fishery closed July 8.

As of today, 80% of the open access quota has been harvested. The weather forecast was recently downgraded. There is a brief window of favorable weather. Taking that into consideration, and based on the catch rate right before the storm and the longer soak time due to the storm, it is expected that the quota will be reached by Wednesday July 20.

All commercial crab permit holders must pull all their pots out of the water by Wednesday, July 27. In the event of mechanical difficulties and another vessel is needed to pull your pots, please notify Jim Menard in the ADF&G office in advance.

For further information please contact the Nome office at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271 or the Unalakleet office at 907-624-3921.

Good Luck, Good Crabbing and Safe Travels.

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