

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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner

Scott Kelley Director



Contact:

Miranda Westphal, BSAI Area Management Biologist
Ethan Nichols, BSAI Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 581-1239
Fax: (907) 581-1572

Dutch Harbor Office
P.O. Box 920587
Dutch Harbor, AK 99692

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**SAINT MATTHEW ISLAND SECTION BLUE KING CRAB
SEASON CLOSED**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have completed analysis of 2016 NMFS trawl and ADF&G pot survey results for Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab. The 2016 model survey estimate of mature male abundance (1.381 million pounds) is below the minimum regulatory threshold of 1.469 million pounds necessary for a fishery opening. Therefore, Saint Matthew Island Section blue king crab will be closed for the 2016/17 season.

For questions regarding federal Crab Rationalization Program regulations, contact NOAA Fisheries Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228 or the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement in Kodiak at (907) 486-3298 or Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-2061. For questions regarding quota shares and IFQ/IPQ, contact NOAA Fisheries RAM Division at 1-800-304-4846 (option #2).

For further information contact ADF&G Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239, or ADF&G Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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