ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



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COMMERCIAL POT SHRIMP FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT DISTRICT 1 AND SECTION 3-A CLOSURE

Ketchikan... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following closures.

District 1: The commercial pot shrimp fishery will close in District 1 effective 4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 13, 2016. Effort levels and harvest rates obtained by fish tickets and reports indicate the 64,000 pound GHL in District 1 will be reached by the time of the closure.

Section 3-A: The commercial pot shrimp fishery will close in Section 3-A effective 4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 13, 2016. Effort levels and harvest rates obtained by fish tickets and reports indicate the 114,000 pound guideline harvest level (GHL) in Section 3-A will be reached by the time of the closure.

All shrimp pot gear must be removed from the water or placed in storage by the time of the closure. Pots may be stored in the waters of District 1 and Section 3-A until 4:00 p.m., Thursday, October 20, 2016. Stored pots must have all doors secured fully open and all bait and bait containers removed.

Shrimp tickets must be submitted to an Alaska Department of Fish and Game office within seven days of closure of a district, or portion of a district with a distinct GHL [5 AAC 31.143. (c)(1)]. Fishermen are reminded that catcher/sellers intending to sell shrimp to persons unlicensed to process shrimp (i.e. dock sales) must fill out an Alaska Department of Fish and Game fish ticket indicating the weight of the shrimp on board by species before any shrimp are removed from the vessel [5 AAC 31.143. (d)].

<u>All commercial shrimp fishermen</u> are required to notify the department within two business days of deploying gear in a district, or portion of a district, with a distinct GHL. The Department is waiving the "ceasing fishing" reporting requirement (under 5 AAC 31.143(a)) for District 1 and Section 3-A.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C2516.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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