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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



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## COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT DISTRICT 7 CLOSURE

Petersburg. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the District 7 commercial pot shrimp fishery will be closed effective at 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 13, 2017.

District 7 is being managed under an experimental inseason management approach. The department has analyzed the preliminary preseason survey results, commercial harvest, and sampling information from the first 8 days of the fishery. Based on this analysis, the department has determined the Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) should be increased by 30% to 96,590 pounds. Effort levels and catch rates obtained by on-site monitoring, fish tickets, and catcher processor reports indicate the GHL will be reached at 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 7 until 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 20, 2017. 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 and within two business days after ceasing fishing in a district, or portion of a district, with a distinct GHL. <u>Catcher/Processor and Catcher/Seller</u> vessels must report, weekly, the pounds in whole weight by species of shrimp on board the vessel taken during the open shrimp-fishing period. For further details refer to the News Release dated September 1, 2017.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C2517.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
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AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220