Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: Friday, Aug

For Immediate Release: Friday, Aug. 28, 2020 *Time:* 2:00 PM

Cook Inlet Aquatic Plants Announcement

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has established a season for the commercial harvest of detached kelp that has washed up on beaches in Cook Inlet. The department will manage for a guideline harvest level of 86,000 pounds of kelp.

Participants in this commercial harvest must have in their possession at the time of collection a Commissioner's Permit that defines the dates and areas of harvest. The permit also requires accurate documentation of the harvest as well as the timely reporting back to the department of this and other information. To apply for a Commissioner's Permit for the harvest of detached kelp in Lower Cook Inlet, please contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in Homer.

<u>COVID-19</u>: Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/ and may also be accessed by scanning the quick read (QR) code at right using a smart phone.