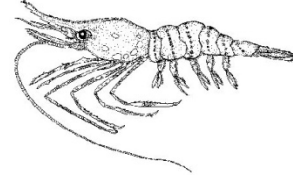


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Charlie Trowbridge, Area Shellfish Management Biologist

Homer Area Office
3298 Douglas Place
Homer, Alaska 99603

Phone: (907) 235-8191
Fax: (907) 235-2448

Date Issued: 04/6/2012

**ANNOUNCEMENT
NORTH GULF COAST PERSONAL USE SHRIMP FISHERY OPENS
AREA EXTENDED BY EMERGENCY ORDER
EO # 2-SF-H-02-12**

The Personal Use season for shrimp fishing with pot gear in North Gulf Coast (NGC) area waters will open April 15. At its March shellfish meeting, the Alaska Board of Fisheries adopted a proposal to open additional NGC waters between Cape Aialik and Cape Fairfield and including Resurrection Bay. Figure 1 shows the expanded area open to personal use shrimp fishing.

Only Alaska residents may participate in this fishery. A permit is required prior to harvesting shrimp. Permits are free and will be available beginning April 11 during regular business hours at ADF&G offices in Anchorage, Soldotna, Homer, and at the Fish House in Seward. A person must possess or be named as a household member on a permit to participate in the fishery and the permit must be in possession of the person fishing for shrimp. Harvest information must be entered on the permit catch log prior to leaving the fishing grounds.

Legal gear for the fishery is five pots per person and per vessel. Each shrimp pot must meet the mesh and biodegradable escape mechanism requirements as described on the permit.

-continued-

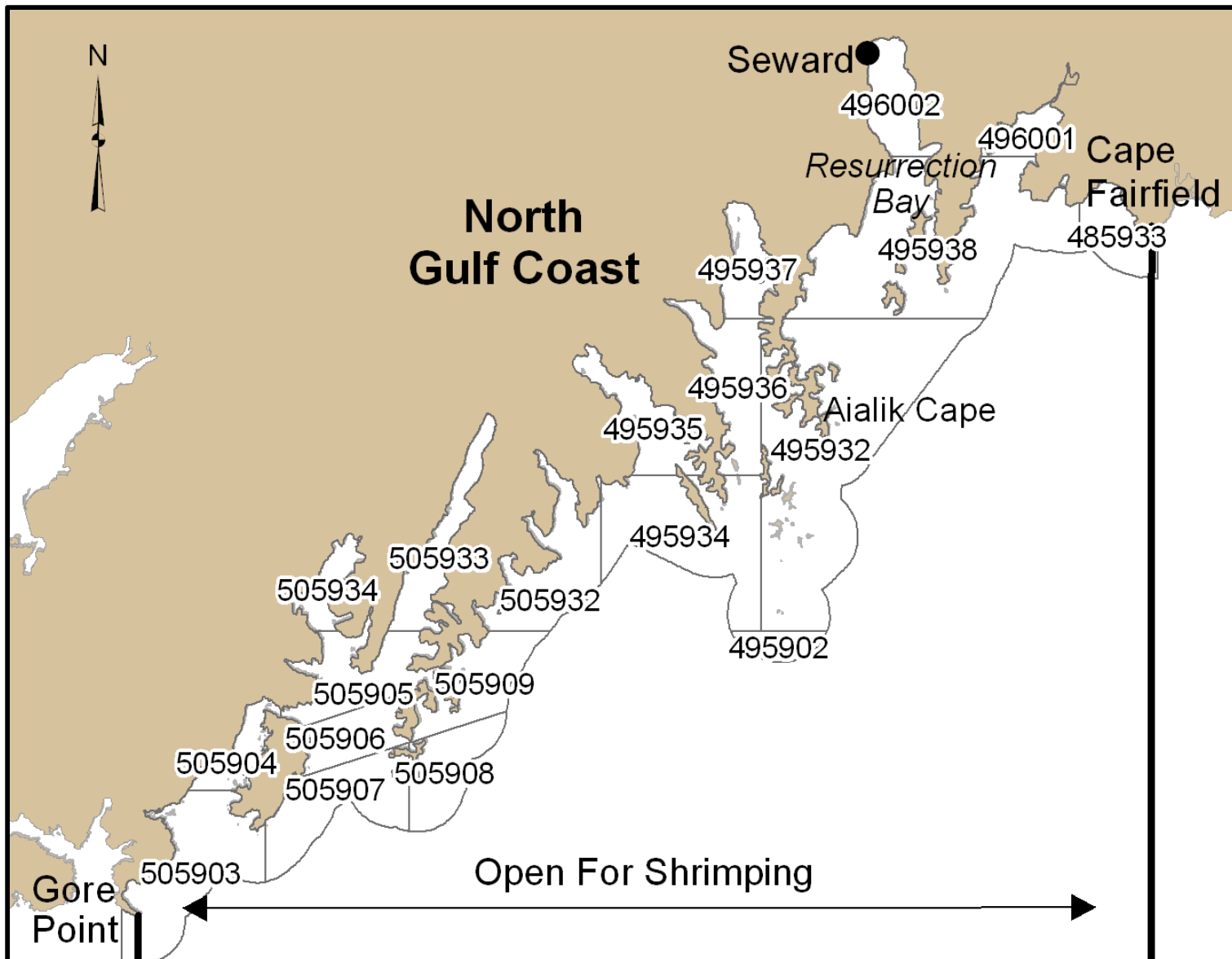


Figure 1. Open waters and reporting areas for the 2012 North Gulf Coast personal use shrimp fishery.