

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 2-SHR-6-13-20

Issued at: Anchorage, Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Effective Date: 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Expiration Date: 11:59 p.m. Tuesday,
September 15, 2020 unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order decreases the number of shrimp pots allowed to harvest shrimp in the Prince William Sound sport fishery from five pots per person with a maximum of five pots per vessel, to three pots per person with a maximum of three pots per vessel.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 55.022. (b)(5)(B) and 5 AAC 55.055. (a)(3)(C) are superseded by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, April 15 through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2020.

5 AAC 55.022. General provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for Prince William Sound Area.

(b)(5)(B) no more than three pots per person, with no more than three pots per vessel, may be used to take shrimp;

5 AAC 55.055. Prince William Sound noncommercial shrimp fishery management plan.

(a)(3)(C) no more than three pots per vessel may be used to take shrimp.

Doug Vincent-Lang,
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Jay Baumer
Area Management Biologist

JUSTIFICATION:

The Prince William Sound noncommercial management plan (5 AAC 55.055) allocates 60% of the total allowable harvest (TAH) of shrimp in the area to the noncommercial fisheries. This 60% of the TAH represents the guideline harvest levels (GHL) for the noncommercial shrimp fisheries including sport and subsistence fisheries.

During the 2019 season the noncommercial shrimp fishery had a GHL of 102,100 pounds. Using three pots, this fishery harvested an estimated 102,919 pounds of shrimp and exceeded the GHL by 819 pounds.

The 2020 TAH is 170,182 pounds of shrimp, providing the noncommercial fishery a GHL of 102,100 pounds (60% of the TAH). To avoid exceeding the GHL, it is warranted to limit gear for the PWS noncommercial shrimp fishery to three pots per person with no more than three pots per vessel.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region II Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2218.