2019 DEMERSAL SHELF ROCKFISH FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) announced today the commercial directed fishery for demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) will close in the Southern Southeast Outside (SSEO) Section at 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 22, 2019. The allocation for the directed DSR fishery in SSEO is 111,865 round lb. The department estimates 105,000 lb have been taken and the remaining quota is not adequate to maintain a competitive fishery.

The directed DSR fishery remains open in the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) and Southern Southeast Inside (SSEI) Subdistricts. These areas will remain open until allocations are taken or 4:00 p.m. on March 14, 2019, whichever occurs first. Catch and effort will be closely monitored and area closures may occur on short notice. Closures will be announced by ADF&G news release, United States Coast Guard “Notice to Mariners” report, and the National Weather Service broadcast. Updates of area closures will also be posted on the Groundfish Hotline at (907) 747-4882.

For additional information regarding the 2019 directed DSR fishery, refer to the ADF&G news releases issued on December 13, 2018 and February 1, 2019.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G0519.