

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



*Douglas Vincent-Lang, Commissioner
Sam Rabung, Director*



Contact:
Jan Rumble, Area Groundfish Management Biologist
Elisa Russ, Assistant Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 235-8191
Fax: (907) 235-2448

Homer Area Office
3298 Douglas Place
Homer, Alaska 99603

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**FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA
COMMISSIONERS PERMIT TANNER CRAB FISHERY
WESTERN AND EASTERN DISTRICTS ONLY
FISHING PERIOD EXTENSION
EMERGENCY ORDER # 2-SF-E-04-19**

Due to adverse weather conditions that limited participation in the Prince William Sound Area (PWS) Commissioner's Permit Tanner crab fishery for approximately a week in duration, the department is extending the season until 11:59 p.m. April 7 with the same pot limit, 25 pots per vessel. The department is still tracking daily harvest in all statistical areas; fishermen should monitor news releases for possible statistical area closures.

In addition, in order to provide opportunity for prospecting in areas that have not been explored, the Eastern District and the area of the Western District east of 148° W longitude and south of Montague Island, and not including statistical area 475934, will open from 12:01 a.m. April 8 through 11:59 p.m. April 17, with a pot limit of 40 pots per vessel (see map in Figure 1); season, area, and gear may be adjusted by emergency order (EO) depending on fishery performance. Vessels will not be allowed to operate 40 pots in PWS prior to April 8, even if fishing in the area of the extension. If fishermen intend to operate up to 15 additional pots beginning April 8, additional pot tags will be available the first week of April at ADF&G offices in Homer or Cordova, or by appointment in Seward by contacting ADF&G in Homer.

All pot gear in the Western District west of 148° W longitude and north of Montague Island must have all bait and bait containers removed by the time of the closure in that area at 11:59 p.m. April 7.

Only fishermen that registered for the fishery prior to the registration deadline are allowed to participate in this fishery extension. Each vessel is still required to make a daily call-in by 3:00 pm. Also, participants are asked to give the department prior notice of landing (PNOL) at least 8 hours before landing Tanner crab to give the department the opportunity to collect biological information from the harvest.

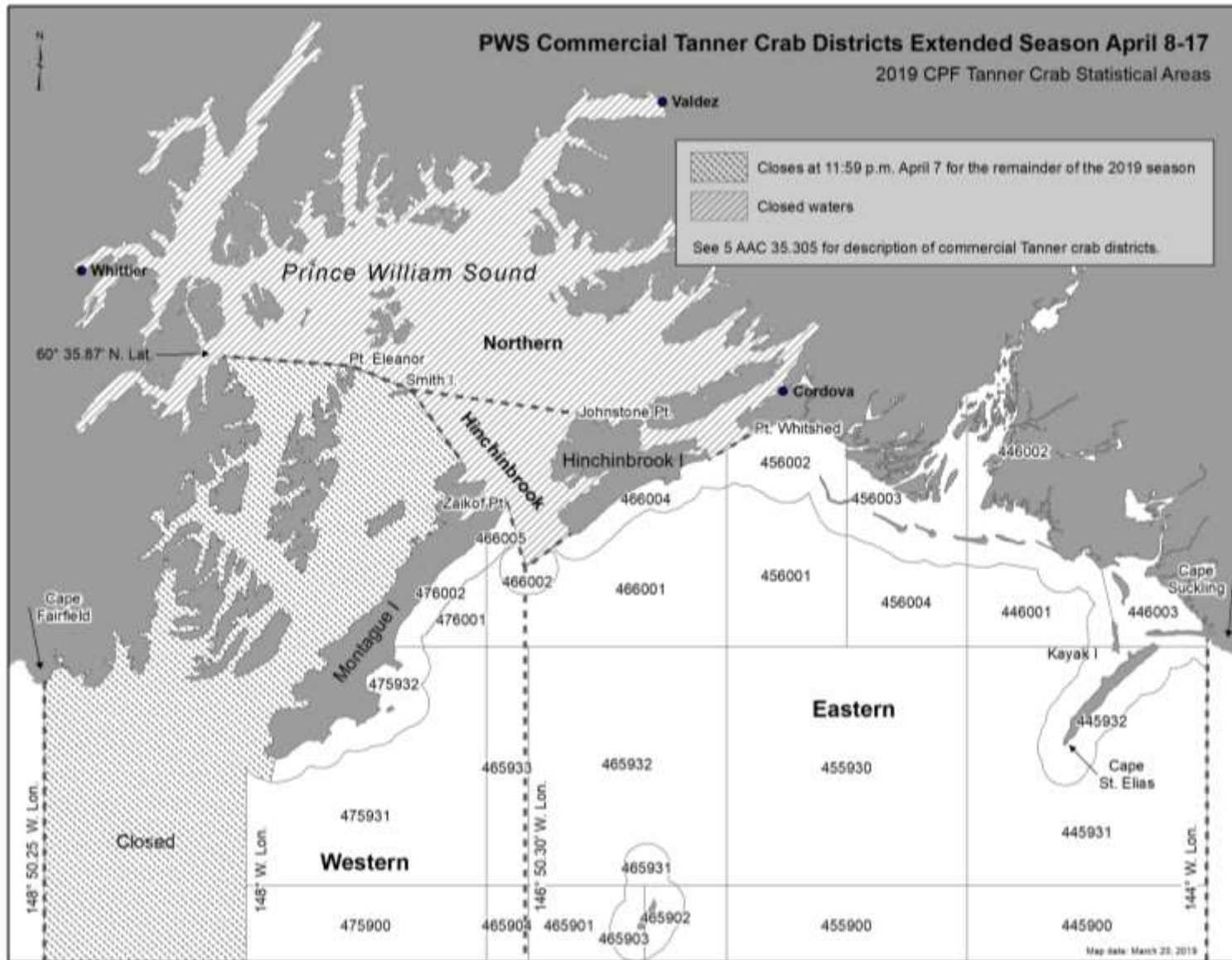


Figure 1. Prince William Sound Area Commercial Tanner Crab Districts with extended season area for Commissioner’s Permit fishery with pot limit of 40 pots per vessel beginning 12:01 a.m. April 8 and closing 11:59 p.m. April 17, unless closed earlier by EO.

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