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



Douglas S. Vincent-Lang, Commissioner Sam Rabung, Director



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Norton Sound commercial red king crab fishery will close on the evening of April 30

The Norton Sound winter commercial red king crab fishery will close on the evening of April 30, Tuesday, at midnight and all crab pots must be un-baited and doors secured open by that time. Crab must be delivered to the fish plant by May 1. All catcher-sellers must have their fish tickets turned into Fish & Game by May 8.

To date, less than 3,500 pounds have been harvested in the winter commercial red king crab fishery and the 8,000 plus pounds remaining on the winter commercial GHL will be added to the summer commercial red king crab GHL, which will now total approximately 147,000 pounds, <u>including the CDQ quota</u>.

Registration for the summer commercial red king crab fishery will begin in June at the Nome Fish & Game office and the fishery is expected to begin in late June or early July.

Norton Sound subsistence crabbing remains open 365 days a year. Subsistence crab permits are required and available at the Fish & Game office in Nome or can be mailed out to village residents. Please have your Alaska driver's license or i.d. number when calling for a permit. Subsistence permits are free and all Alaska resident households qualify for a permit. The winter subsistence crab permit is valid through May 31 and a summer subsistence crab permit is valid from June 1 through November 30. The winter subsistence permits are required to be returned to the Nome office by June 7.

Crabbers with questions about the winter or summer crab fisheries can call Fish & Game at 443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271.