
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2030 Sea Level Drive #205
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
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Time: 11:00 a.m.

2019/20 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL RED SEA URCHIN FISHERY

Ketchikan.... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the 2019/20 commercial red sea urchin fishery will open at 5:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 1, 2019. The season will be open for daily fishing periods from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., seven days per week. A total of 3,529,800 pounds of red sea urchins will be available for harvest this season.

The following areas will be open by emergency order effective 5:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 1, 2019:

District 1:

Dixon Entrance and Portland Canal - Subdistrict 101-11: will be open for a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 383,200 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Dixon Entrance and Portland Canal east and south of a line extending 3.0 nautical miles (nmi) from the Foggy Point range marker at 54°55.50' N. lat., 130°58.60' W. long., to an offshore point at 54°56.86' N. lat., 131°03.24' W. long., and south to intersect a line between Barren Island Light and Lord Rock Light at 54°44.02' N. lat., 131°03.24' W. long., to Lord Rock Light at 54°43.55' N. lat., 130°49.22' W. long., and due south to a point in Dixon Entrance at 54°42.03' N. lat., 130°49.22' W. long., and north of the U.S./Canada border with the following restriction:

Portland Canal: all waters will be closed east of a line from the northernmost tip of Phipp Point at 54°46.56' N. lat., 130°37.25' W. long., to 54°47.58' N. lat., 130°38.10' W. long.

Revillagigedo Channel and Southern Clarence Strait - Subdistrict 101-21: will be open for a GHL of 1,082,600 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Clarence Strait and Revillagigedo Channel south of the latitude of Point White on Duke Island at 54°56.05' N. lat., and south and west of a line from Duke Point at 54°55.08' N. lat., 131°11.61' W. long., to a point 3.0 nmi off Foggy Point at 54°56.86' N. lat., 131°03.24' W. long., and south to a point at 54°44.02' N. lat., 131°03.24' W. long., and to Lord Rock Light at 54°43.55' N. lat., 130°49.22' W. long., and due south to Dixon Entrance at 54°42.03' N. lat., 130°49.22' W. long. Note: Bee Rocks (Subdistrict 101-22) is not included in this area.

Bee Rocks - Subdistrict 101-22: will be open for a GHL of 290,700 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Clarence Strait east of 131°37.00' W. long., south of 54°54.42' N. lat., west of 131°30.00' W. long., and north of 54°50.00' N. lat.

Revillagigedo Channel and Felice Strait - Subdistrict 101-23: will be open for a GHL of 195,000 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Revillagigedo Channel west of a line from Quadra Point at 55°05.15' N. lat., 130°49.22' W. long., and due south to Dixon Entrance at 54°42.03' N. lat., 130°49.22' W. long.

N. lat., 130°59.10' W. long., to Kah Shakes Point at 55°04.26' N. lat., 130°58.80' W. long., and south of a line from Mary Island Light at 55°05.94' N. lat., 131°10.96' W. long. to the northernmost tip of Black Island at 55°08.00' N. lat., 131°04.80' W. long., then due east to the mainland shore at 55°08.00' N. lat., 131°04.59' W. long., and south of a line from Mary Island at 55°05.94' N. lat., 131°10.96' W. long., to the eastern shore of Annette Island at 55°06.78' N. lat., 131°21.50' W. long., and north of a line from Duke Point at 54°55.08' N. lat., 131°11.62' W. long., to a point 3.0 nmi off Foggy Point at 54°56.86' N. lat., 131°03.24' W. long. to the range marker located at Foggy Point at 54°55.50' N. lat., 130°58.60' W. long., and east of a point on Duke Island at 131°26.60' W. long.

Percy Islands and southern Gravina Island - Subdistrict 101-25: will be open for a GHL of 322,500 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Clarence Strait south of a line from the southernmost tip of Dall Head at 55°07.74' N. lat., 131°44.86' W. long., to Cedar Point at 55°05.82' N. lat., 131°36.54' W. long., and north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Point White at 54°56.05' N. lat., and west of a point on Duke Island at 131°26.60' W. long.

West Shore of Gravina Island - Subdistrict 101-29: will be open for a GHL of 727,700 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Clarence Strait, south and west of a line from Caamano Point at 55°29.85' N. lat., 131°58.21' W. long., to Point Higgins at 55°27.43' N. lat., 131°50.03' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Vallenar Point at 55°25.59' N. lat., 131°51.09' W. long., and north of the southernmost tip of Dall Head at 55°07.74' N. lat.

East Behm Canal – Subdistricts 101-41 and 53: will be open for a GHL of 57,800 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Revillagigedo Channel and East Behm Canal south and east of a line from the northernmost tip of Cone Point at 55°14.91' N. lat., 131°18.98' W. long., to a point at the southwest entrance of Moth Bay at 55°15.67' N. lat., 131°20.57' W. long., to the northernmost tip of Harbor Point at 55°13.05' N. lat., 131°25.07' W. long., north of a line from 55°06.78' N. lat., 131°20.33' W. long., on the eastern side of Annette Island, to 55°05.95' N. lat., 131°13.00' W. long., on the western side of Mary Island, and from Mary Island Light at 55°05.94' N. lat., 131°10.96' W. long. to the northernmost tip of Black Island at 55°08.00' N. lat., 131°04.80' W. long., then due east to the mainland shore at 55°08.00' N. lat., 131°04.59' W. long., and all waters of East Behm Canal south of a line from the northernmost tip of Roe Point at 55°14.47' N. lat., 131°00.26' W. long., to the easternmost tip of Fox Point at 55°15.65' N. lat., 131°03.88' W. long.

West Behm Canal - Subdistricts 101-85 and 90: will be open for a GHL of 16,300 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of West Behm Canal north of a line from Caamano Point 55°29.85' N. lat., 131°58.21' W. long., to Point Higgins at 55°27.43' N. lat., 131°50.03' W. long., and south of a line from a point at 55°35.47' N. lat., 131°56.16' W. long., on the mainland shore at the southern end of Helm Bay, to the northernmost tip of Betton Island at 55°32.58' N. lat., 131°47.65' W. long., with the following restriction:

Clover Passage: all waters will be closed.

District 2:

Lower Clarence Strait - Subdistrict 102-20: will be open for a GHL of 34,600 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Lower Clarence Strait adjacent to the eastern shore of Prince of Wales Island north of 54°54.27' N. lat., at the northern entrance to Kendrick Bay and south of 55°08.25' N. lat., including all waters of Moira Sound east of a line from 55°05.08' N. lat., 132°02.50' W. long., 2.0 nmi east of Point Halliday, to 55°05.00' N. lat., 132°02.73' W. long., west of Menefee Anchorage.

Clarence Strait - Subdistrict 102-50: will be open for a GHL of 260,900 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters adjacent to the eastern shore of Prince of Wales Island south of a line from a point on the northeast side of Kasaan Peninsula at 55°28.40' N. lat., 132°08.75' W. long., to Caamano Point at 55°29.85' N. lat., 131°58.21' W. long., and north of 55°08.25' N. lat., and east of a line from a point on

the southwest side of Kasaan Peninsula at 55°27.93' N. lat., 132°11.92' W. long., to a point near Skowl Point at 55°25.00' N. lat., 132°15.50' W. long., and north and east of a line from a point at 55°15.23' N. lat., 132°06.82' W. long., located at the northwestern entrance of Cholmondeley Sound, to a point at 55°14.73' N. lat., 132°04.50' W. long., located 2.6 nmi southwest of Chasina Point in the entrance to Cholmondeley Sound.

Clarence Strait - Subdistrict 102-70: will be open for a GHLL of 82,400 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Clarence Strait adjacent to the eastern shore of Kasaan Peninsula north of a line from a point inside Streets Island at 55°28.40' N. lat., 132°08.75' W. long., to Caamano Point at 55°29.85' N. lat., 131°58.21' W. long., and south of a line from the easternmost tip of Narrow Point at 55°47.00' N. lat., 132°28.23' W. long., to Lemesurier Point at 55°46.02' N. lat., 132°16.94' W. long.

Clarence Strait - Subdistrict 102-80: will be open for a GHLL of 76,100 pounds of red sea urchins in those waters of Clarence Strait adjacent to the western shore of Cleveland Peninsula north of a line from the southernmost tip of Caamano Point at 55°29.85' N. lat., 131°58.21' W. long., to a point inside Streets Island at 55°28.40' N. lat., 132°08.75' W. long., and south of a line from Lemesurier Point at 55°46.02' N. lat., 132°16.94' W. long., to the easternmost tip of Narrow Point at 55°47.00' N. lat., 132°28.23' W. long.

Other Restrictions and Information

All vessels used in this fishery must have a valid **2019** vessel license obtained from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) and a Miscellaneous Shellfish vessel registration form issued by ADF&G. Vessel registrations can be obtained at any ADF&G office. All crew members are required to have a valid commercial crewmembers license or a limited entry card from another fishery.

Following is a summary of red sea urchin regulations:

1. All vessels, including tenders, must be registered with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game prior to being used in the fishery.
2. All divers must have a valid CFEC permit card to harvest red sea urchins.
3. Permit card holders (hereafter, "permit holders") participating in the urchin fishery may not use dive gear for subsistence, personal use, or sport dive fishing during a 14-day period before or after the opening of the urchin fishery.
4. No more than three permit holders may be onboard a registered vessel from 24 hours before, during, and for 24 hours after a fishing period, or when commercially harvested urchins are on board; no more than two permit holders may conduct fishing operations or land commercially harvested red sea urchins off of a registered vessel during any open fishing period.
5. There is no size limit for the harvest of red sea urchins.
6. Red sea urchins may be taken only by hand picking.
7. Only one species of miscellaneous shellfish is permitted to be on board a vessel at one time.
8. Prior to processing, urchins harvested from different subdistricts must be kept in separate containers labeled with the subdistrict and permit holder's name.
9. Floating processors must carry onboard observers. Floating processors, instead of having an onboard observer, may be issued a permit allowing onboard processing under conditions listed in 5 AAC 38.145(n).
10. Permit holders must report dive times in minutes on fish tickets.

All fishermen and processors should consult a current Commercial Shellfish Fishing Regulations Book for complete regulations. These books are available at local Fish and Game offices.

The Alaska Department of Revenue, Tax Division (DOR) announces amended Dive Fish Management Assessment rates for Sea Urchin and Sea Cucumber fisheries in the Southeast Alaska Management Area A. The Sea Urchin Dive Fish Management Assessment rate has been lowered to 1% effective October 1,

2019. The Sea Cucumber Dive Fish Management Assessment rate has been lowered to 3% effective October 1, 2019.

These amended rates are the result of the May 2019 election held in accordance with Alaska Statute 43.76.160. DOR has updated rates for Dive Fish Management filers in the electronic revenue online system. Questions regarding filing can be directed to DOR at 907-465-2320, select “4”.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M2219.

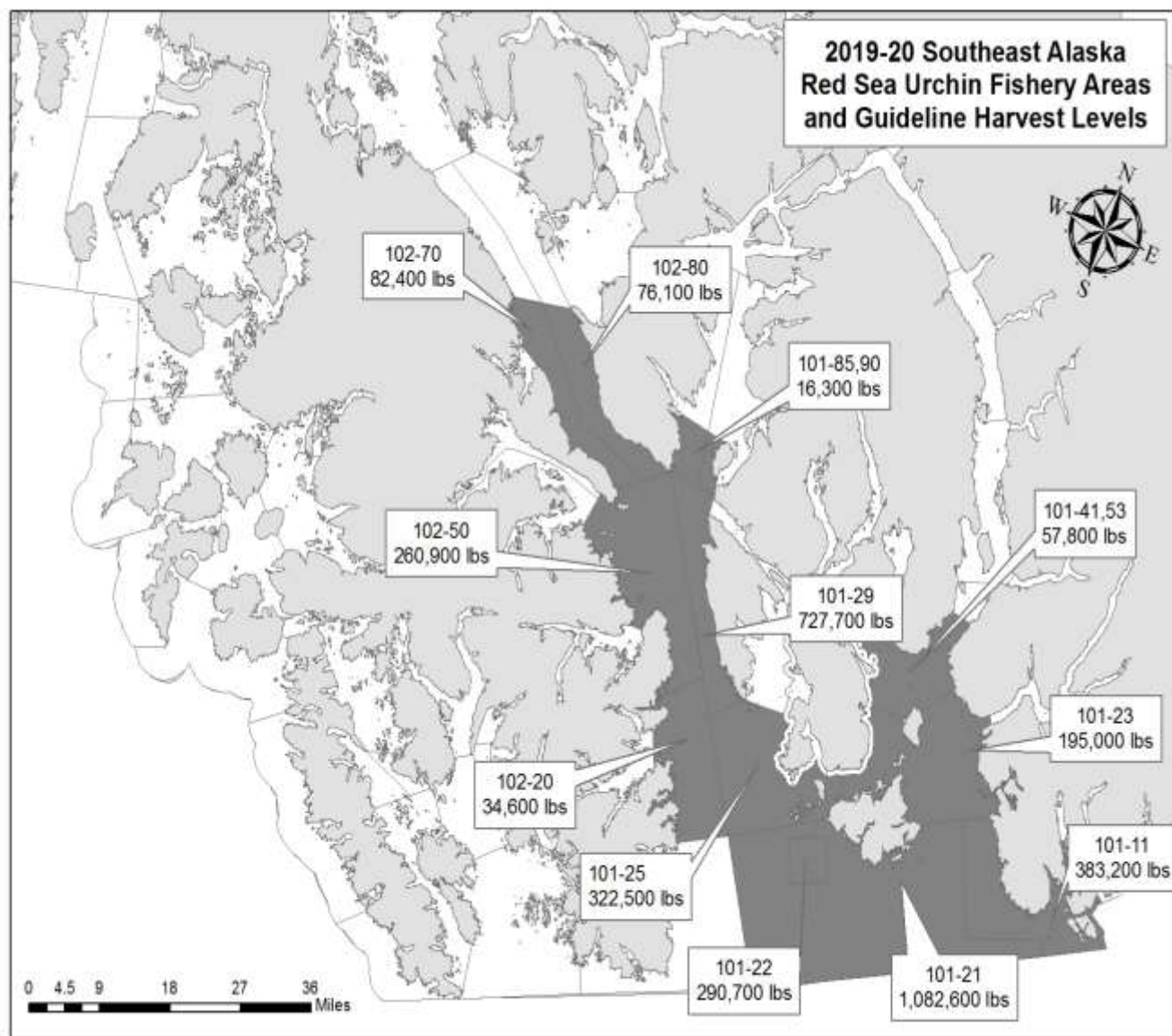


Figure 1. Commercial red sea urchin open harvest areas (shaded) and guideline harvest levels for the 2019/20 season.

Note: This chart is for general reference purposes only and does not identify boundaries of open areas. See written descriptions above for detailed description of open areas.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
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