## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

## **NEWS RELEASE**



Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

Sam Rabung, Director



Contact:

Miranda Westphal, BSAI Area Management Biologist Ethan Nichols, BSAI Area Asst. Management Biologist

Phone: (907) 581-1239 Fax: (907) 581-1572 Dutch Harbor Office P.O. Box 920587 Dutch Harbor, AK. 99692

Date Issued: 10/6/2019

## Pribilof District Red and Blue King Crab Seasons Closed

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and National Marine Fisheries Service have completed analysis of 2019 NMFS trawl survey results for Pribilof District red and blue king crabs. Pribilof District red and blue king crab fisheries will remain closed for the 2019/20 season.

The 2019 Pribilof District blue king crab abundance estimates remain below the federal minimum stock size threshold and the stock has been declared overfished. Total mature biomass also falls below minimum harvest strategy thresholds required for a fishery. Therefore, the Pribilof District blue king crab fishery will remain closed for the 2019/20 season.

Due to uncertainty in Pribilof District red king crab abundance estimates and high potential for blue king crab bycatch during a red king crab fishery, the Pribilof District red king crab fishery will also remain closed for the 2019/20 season.

For further information contact ADF&G Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239, or ADF&G Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.