



Advisory Announcement
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**SOUTHEAST ALASKA 2020/2021 COMMERCIAL BEAM TRAWL SHRIMP
FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Petersburg. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) announced today the following information concerning the 2020/2021 Southeast Alaska commercial beam trawl fishery. The Southeast Alaska commercial beam trawl fishery opens May 1, 2020.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 11, and 12, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>.

Vessel Registration

Vessel registration is required to participate in the beam trawl fishery. **Due to safety measures put in place by State of Alaska Health Mandates for COVID-19, permit holders will be required to call ahead and make an appointment with department staff prior to registering for the 2020/2021 beam trawl shrimp season.** The department recommends permit holders bring a pen to sign the vessel registration form and to wear a face covering.

Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) for the 2020/2021 Season

Participation in the Southeast beam trawl fishery increased during the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 seasons after over a decade of low annual harvests. The department implemented precautionary GHLs in Districts 6 & 8 for the 2016/2017 season to prevent overharvest of stocks with minimal stock status information, while allowing for fishery expansion and evolution of trawl shrimp markets. These GHLs for traditional and nontraditional areas will remain unchanged for the 2020/2021 season (Tables 1 & 2).

To maximize fleet opportunity in Districts 6 & 8, any unharvested GHL remaining after a period closes will be added to the next harvest period (up to the maximum guideline harvest range (GHR) for that period); any GHL remaining over the GHR for the next period will be rolled into the following period. This harvest strategy will allow the fleet to target shrimp during different seasons as market conditions dictate. Table 3 shows how this management strategy would have been implemented during the 2015/2016 season, i.e. when the GHL is not caught in the initial period, the "rollover" increases the GHL in subsequent periods allowing the fleet the opportunity to fish in later periods while still constraining the total harvest within the bounds that allowed for historical expansion of harvest in these districts.

Advisory announcements will be issued two weeks after the start of a fishing period to announce any GHL rollover from the previous period.

Table 1. Guideline harvest levels (GHLs) in pounds, fishing periods, and spot and coonstripe shrimp bycatch limits in pounds by fishing area for the 2020/2021 beam trawl shrimp fishery in traditional areas of southeastern Alaska.

| GHL by fishing period | Traditional areas ¹ | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| | District 6 ¹ | District 7 ¹ | District 8 | District 10 ¹ |
| May 1 - June 30, 2020 | 300,000 | 50,000 | 250,000 | 75,000 |
| July 1 - August 31, 2020 | 290,000 | 50,000 | 175,000 | 75,000 |
| September 1 - October 31, 2020 | | | 180,000 | |
| September 1, 2020 - February 28, 2021 | 160,000 | 50,000 | | 75,000 |
| November 1, 2020- February 28, 2021 | | | 65,000 | |
| Spot shrimp season bycatch limit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 6,000 | 1,000 |
| Coonstripe shrimp season bycatch limit | 9,000 | 1,000 | 10,000 | 3,000 |

1. See 5 AAC 31.111(a)(2) in the 2019-2021 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet for specific descriptions of traditional beam trawl areas in Districts 6, 7, and 10.

Table 2. Guideline harvest levels (GHLs) in pounds, fishing periods, and spot and coonstripe shrimp bycatch limits in pounds by fishing area for the 2020/2021 beam trawl shrimp fishery in nontraditional areas of southeastern Alaska.

| GHL for season | Nontraditional areas ¹ | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------|----------------|----------------|-------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | District | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 5 | 6 ¹ | 7 ¹ | 9 | 10 ¹ | 11-A,B,C | 11-D |
| May 1, 2020 - February 28, 2021 | - - - - 100,000 in each District - - - - | | | | | | 75,000 ² | 150,000 |
| Spot shrimp season bycatch limit | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 ³ | 1,000 ⁴ |
| Coonstripe shrimp season bycatch limit | 3,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 7,000 | 4,000 ³ | 1,000 ⁴ |

1. See 5 AAC 31.111(a)(3) in the 2019-2021 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet for specific descriptions of non-traditional beam trawl areas in Districts 6, 7, and 10.
2. GHLs per section.
3. Allowable bycatch for Sections 11-A and 11-B combined as stated in 5 AAC 31.116(b)(9)(A).
4. Allowable bycatch for Sections 11-C and 11-D combined as stated in 5 AAC 31.116(b)(9)(B).

Spot and Coonstripe shrimp bycatch

Trip and seasonal beam trawl bycatch limits for spot and coonstripe shrimp (less than 60 count per pound) are in effect, except in District 11, where the combined spot and coonstripe trip bycatch limit is 10 percent of the whole weight of all pink and sidestripe shrimp on board the vessel. Seasonal bycatch limits along with shrimp GHRs, and fishing periods for traditional and nontraditional fishing areas are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. Specific regulatory language may be found under 5 AAC 31.116 in the 2019-2021 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet.

Table 3: Example of how the 2020/2021 rolling guideline harvest levels (GHLs) would have revised period-specific GHLs within their respective guideline harvest range (GHR) for the 2015/2016 season in the traditional fishing areas of Districts 6 and 8.

| | Preseason GHL | | 2015/2016 Harvest | | Rollover Available (For Next Period) | | Adjusted GHL (Preseason + Rollover) | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | District 6 | District 8 | District 6 | District 8 | District 6 | District 8 | District 6 | District 8 |
| GHR by fishing period: | 80,000 to 400,000 | 25,000 to 250,000 | 80,000 to 400,000 | 25,000 to 250,000 | 80,000 to 400,000 | 25,000 to 250,000 | 80,000 to 400,000 | 25,000 to 250,000 |
| May 1 - Jun 30, 2015 | 300,000 | 250,000 | 144,735 | 115,124 | 155,265 | 134,876 | 300,000 | 250,000 |
| July 1 - Aug 31, 2015 | 290,000 | 175,000 | 14,540 | 82,393 | 275,460 | 92,607 | 400,000 | 250,000 |
| Sep 1 - Oct 31, 2015 | | 180,000 | | 26,320 | | 153,680 | | 250,000 |
| Sep 1, 2015 - Feb 28, 2016 | 160,000 | | 105,154 | | NA | | 400,000 | |
| Nov 1, 2015 - Feb 28, 2016 | | 65,000 | | 243,855 | | NA | | 250,000 |
| Total | 750,000 | 675,000 | 264,429 | 467,692 | 430,725 | 341,163 | 750,000 ^b | 675,000 ^b |

^b Total harvest is still constrained to the preseason GHL, the increased GHLs in periods 2-4 shown in the “Adjusted GHL” columns include rollover of pounds not harvested in the previous periods.

NA: Last period

Fish ticket and logbook completion

Logbooks are required in all fishing areas. Logbooks will be available for pickup from all department area offices. Logbooks must be completed and attached to the corresponding fish tickets upon landing. Fishermen are also reminded that they are required by regulation to report on fish tickets at the time of landing any shrimp harvested which are not purchased by the processor or buyer, or which have been discarded at sea [5 AAC 31.075 (a)]. Each buyer shall indicate on the fish ticket the gross weight of shrimp not purchased from a load [5 AAC 31.075 (b)]. In order to more easily track spot and coonstripe bycatch trip limits, fishermen are also asked to submit a copy of their fish ticket or dock slip from their pink and sidestripe landing when selling spot and coonstripe bycatch to a separate buyer. The spot and coonstripe bycatch buyer shall then attach the copy of the fish ticket or dock slip from the pink and sidestripe landing to the ADF&G copy of the ticket they complete. All fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of delivery [5 AAC 39.130 (c)].

Catcher–processor reporting requirements

A catcher–processor is a commercial fisherman who catches and processes their own product on board [5 AAC 31.143(e)(2)]. A catcher–processor cannot buy or process shrimp from another fishing vessel or tender. Each week an owner or operator of a shrimp beam trawl catcher–processor vessel operating in the waters of Registration Area A shall contact, by telephone, the ADF&G regional office in Petersburg (907-772-5238) before 12:00 noon, Wednesday, during normal business hours of 8:00 am through 5:00 pm; the following information must be provided at the time of contact:

- 1) permit holder's name;
- 2) vessel name and ADF&G number;
- 3) the following information regarding ADF&G fish tickets;
 - a) ADF&G fish ticket number of each fish ticket used since last contact;
 - b) date of landing on each fish ticket;
 - c) district and statistical area on each fish ticket;
 - d) total trawling bottom time, for each district and subdistrict for the preceding week;
 - e) total pounds of whole shrimp taken by species;
- 4) date of last delivery;
- 5) any other information the commissioner determines is necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery.

Pounds of whole shrimp by species since the last call-in and cumulative pounds of whole shrimp on board since the last delivery should match what is reported on daily fish tickets and entered in required logbooks. The total time as reported during call-ins should be the summation for all hauls of the time the trawl was on the bottom, since the last call-in, and should match what is entered in required logbooks. Fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of the closure of a district or portion of a district for which a distinct guideline harvest level exists. A shrimp beam trawl catcher–processor vessel that has stopped fishing in a district or portion of a district for which a distinct guideline harvest level exists shall contact, by telephone or in person, the Petersburg ADF&G area office and report the information specified in this paragraph before fishing in a new district or portion of a district with a GHF established by ADF&G [5 AAC 31.143 (c) (2)]. ADF&G intends to provide adequate notice of pending closures, but fishermen should be aware that it is their responsibility to stay informed as to when a closure may occur. To keep catch information confidential, each catcher–processor should contact the Petersburg ADF&G office to arrange a catch-reporting schedule.

Catcher–seller reporting requirements

A catcher–seller is a commercial fisherman who catches and either sells or attempts to sell unprocessed shrimp to a person not licensed to process shrimp [5 AAC 31.143(e)(3)]. The owner or operator of a catcher–seller vessel must complete a fish ticket indicating the weight of the shrimp on board by species before any shrimp are removed from the vessel.

Rockfish possession and landing requirements for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area

All fishermen participating in the beam trawl fishery for shrimp in Southeast Alaska must retain, weigh, and report all demersal shelf rockfish by species on the fish ticket [5 AAC 28.171 (b)]. Beam trawl permit holders are allowed a combined demersal shelf rockfish bycatch of 1% of the directed shrimp catch. Demersal shelf rockfish species include canary, China, copper, quillback, rosethorn, tiger, and yelloweye rockfish. The bycatch percentage is calculated based on the round weight of rockfish divided by the whole weight of shrimp. Bycatch of rockfish can be sold, used for personal use, or donated., but must be weighed and reported on the shrimp fish ticket. Bycatch in excess of allowable limits shall be reported by species as an overage on ADF&G fish tickets. Proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish bycatch shall be surrendered to the state.

Dual Registration with Dungeness Crab Fishery

A vessel may not be registered for the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery and the commercial Dungeness crab fishery at the same time [5 AAC 31.128(d)]. However, a vessel owner, or the owner’s agent, may cancel a vessel’s registration for the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery and register a vessel for the commercial Dungeness crab fishery by contacting a local ADF&G representative, in person, and providing all requested information.

Other information

Fishermen are also reminded to review pertinent regulations on pages 1–28 of the 2019–2021 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations booklet, or view online at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static-f/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2019-2021_cf_shrimp_dungeness_misc_shellfish_regs.pdf.

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

| <i>Office</i> | <i>Ketchikan</i> | <i>Petersburg</i> | <i>Wrangell</i> | <i>Sitka</i> | <i>Juneau</i> | <i>Haines</i> | <i>Yakutat</i> |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <i>ADF&G</i> | 225-5195 | 772-3801 | 874-3822 | 747-6688 | 465-4250 | 766-2830 | 784-3255 |
| <i>AWT</i> | 225-5111 | 772-3983 | 874-3215 | 747-3254 | 465-4000 | 766-2533 | 784-3255 |