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Prince William Sound Area Shrimp Pot Fishery Second Fishing Period Emergency Order 2-SF-E-06-21

The first period of the Prince William Sound (PWS) commercial shrimp pot season opened at 8:00 am April 15 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 70,000 lb and closed at 8:00 p.m. April 28. The preliminary estimated harvest from fish tickets is approximately 20,000 lb of whole shrimp harvested by 57 vessels. Estimated effort was 17,900 pot lifts with an average catch per unit effort (CPUE) of 1.1 lb of whole shrimp per pot.

The second period of the PWS commercial shrimp pot season will open 8:00 a.m. Monday, May 10 and close 8:00 p.m. Thursday, May 20. ADF&G staff will closely monitor the harvest through call-in reports and fish tickets. Gear limits remain at a maximum of 30 shrimp pots per vessel. Hours of gear operation will remain at 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The area open to commercial fishing is Area 3 (Figure 1). Participants are reminded that only 50% of the GHL may be harvested in any one statistical area (5 AAC 31.214) and they should monitor advisory announcements and the call-in line for potential statistical area closures or period extensions.

Reminders to participants:

- 1) Gear may **NOT** be operated between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. during open fishing periods;
- 2) Pots may only be pulled by the ADF&G vessel associated with the gear;
- 3) Shrimp harvested by a vessel **CANNOT** be transported by another vessel participating in the fishery (except for a registered tender);
- 4) Fish tickets and call-in information must have effort and harvest separated by **Statistical Area**.
- 5) Logbook pages **MUST** be filled out completely and accurately each day and submitted with corresponding fish ticket(s).

It is critical that participating fishermen call the reporting line with pre-trip and landing reports at (907) 226-3474 in order for ADF&G to monitor harvest. The information to be reported is detailed in the registration packet that all registrants received. Reporting requirements must be followed exactly and enforcement action will result for non-compliance. Reporting is required by regulation (5 AAC 31.245 (b) and (c)).

Other pertinent fishery regulations are listed in Chapters 31 and 39 of the 2019-2021 Statewide Commercial Shrimp, Dungeness Crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish Fishing Regulations available online at http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.commercial. Contact ADF&G at (907) 235-8191 for further information.

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Orders 5, 6, and 8, 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 Orders. COVID-19 Health Orders may be found here: https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/.

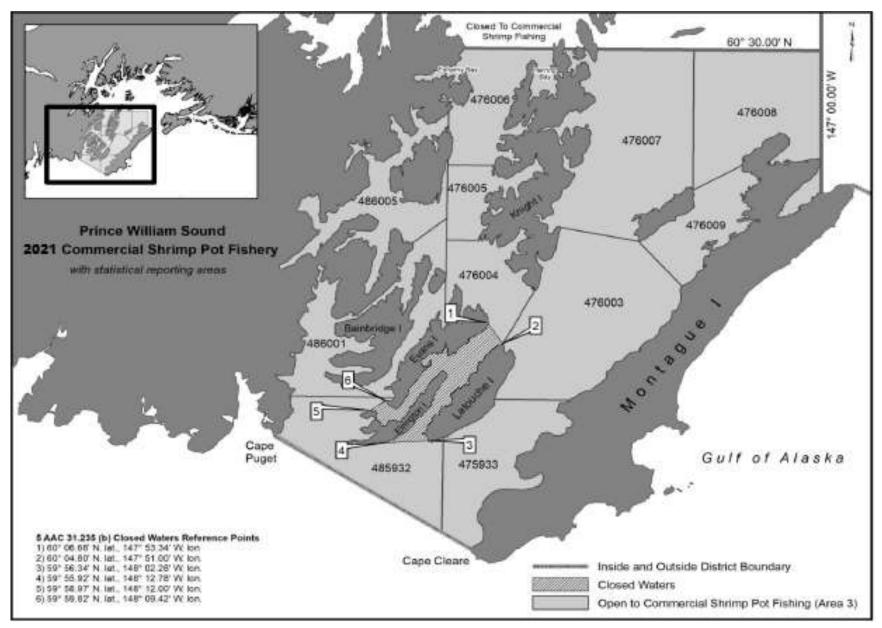


Figure 1.–2021 Prince William Sound Area shrimp pot fishery Area 3.