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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: May 14, 2021*

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### Prince William Sound Area Shrimp Pot Fishery Second Fishing Period Extended Emergency Order 2-SF-E-07-21

The first period of the Prince William Sound (PWS) commercial shrimp pot season opened at 8:00 a.m. April 15 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 70,000 lb and closed at 8:00 p.m. April 28; the second period opened at 8:00 a.m. May 10 with an initial closure of May 20 as announced on May 4. Total estimated harvest to date for the PWS shrimp pot season is approximately 25,000 lb from available fish ticket and call-in reporting data. The second period call-in reports indicate less effort and associated harvest.

Therefore, the second period of the PWS commercial shrimp pot season **will be extended until September 15, 2021 unless closed earlier by emergency order. Gear limits will be increased to 40 shrimp pots per vessel beginning May 15.** Hours of gear operation will remain from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily.

ADF&G staff will continue to closely monitor the harvest through call-in reports and fish tickets. 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 to monitor advisory announcements and the call-in line for potential statistical area closures.

It is critical that participating fishers 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/>.

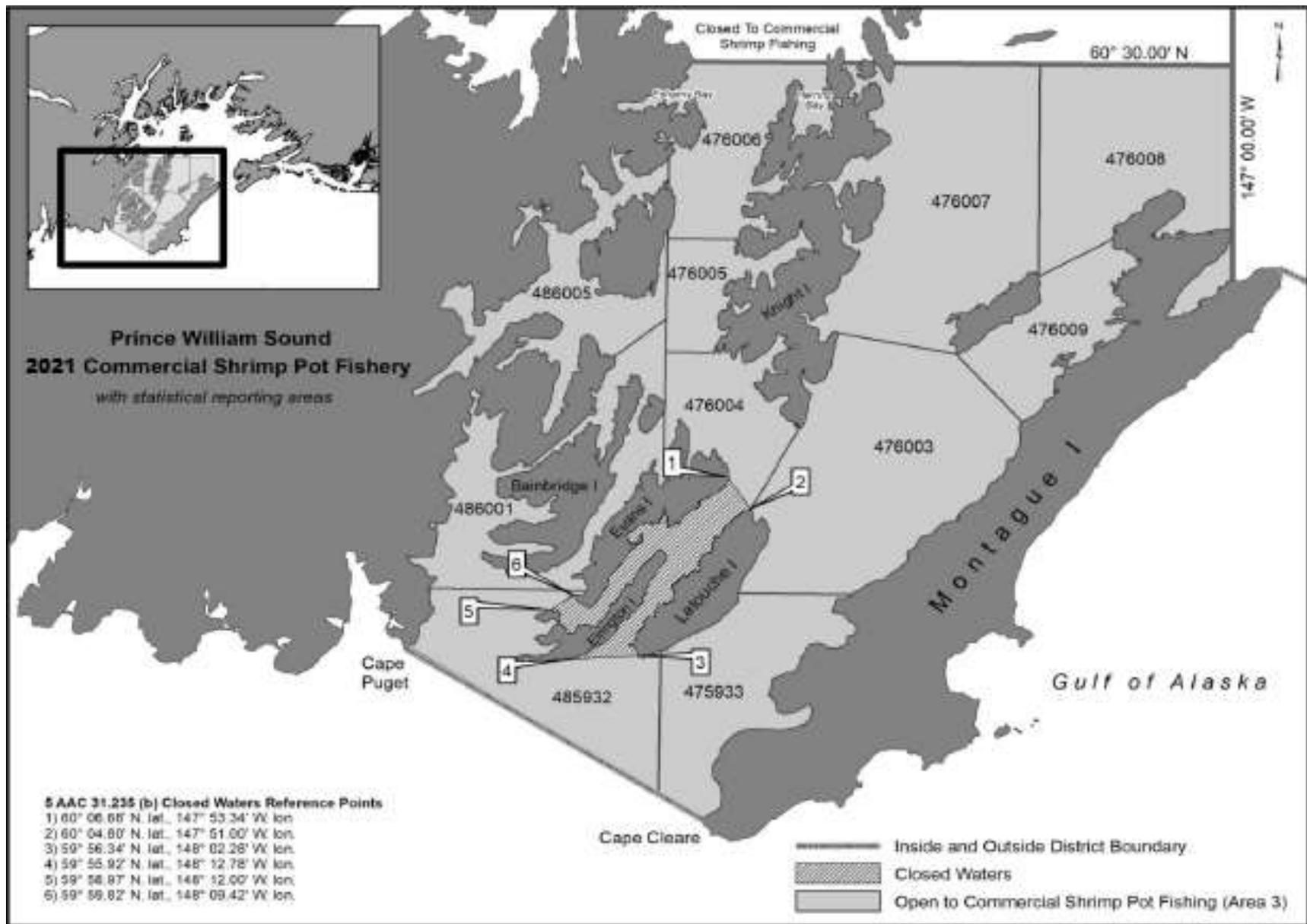


Figure 1.—2021 Prince William Sound Area shrimp pot fishery Area 3.