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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release:*

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### 2022 Commercial Tanner Crab Fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established guideline harvest levels (GHLs) for the 2022 commercial Tanner crab fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts. Guideline harvest levels are as follows:

District/Section	Tanner crab GHLs (pounds)
<b>Kodiak</b>	
Eastside	500,000
Southeast	400,000
Southwest	200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,100,000</b>
<b>Chignik</b>	
	<b>200,000</b>
<b>South Peninsula</b>	
Eastern	200,000
Western	300,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>500,000</b>

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has completed review of 2021 Tanner crab survey results from the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts. Commercial Tanner crab fisheries in these districts may occur when the estimated abundance of mature male Tanner crab meets or exceeds abundance thresholds and minimum guideline harvest levels (GHLs) established in regulation (5 AAC 35.507. *Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts C. bairdi Tanner crab harvest strategies*).

**Kodiak District:** Mature male abundance thresholds are established for six sections in the Kodiak District (5 AAC 35.507(b)(1)(A–F)). A minimum of two sections must meet or exceed established minimum GHLs before a commercial fishery may open. In sections that meet or exceed the abundance thresholds, abundance must also be sufficient to provide for a GHL of at least 100,000 pounds per section and at least 400,000 pounds total for the entire district. Based on 2021 Kodiak District survey results, the Eastside, Southeast, and Southwest Sections exceeded regulatory thresholds necessary for a 2022 commercial Tanner crab season. **The 2022 Kodiak District**

**commercial Tanner crab GHGs will be 500,000 pounds in the Eastside Section, 400,000 pounds in the Southeast Section, and 200,000 pounds in the Southwest Section.** The Northeast, Westside, North Mainland, South Mainland Sections will remain closed for the 2022 commercial Tanner crab season.

By regulation, the Semidi Island Overlap Section opens when either the Southwest Section of the Kodiak District or the Chignik District opens; therefore, the Semidi Island Overlap Section will open in 2022 to both Kodiak District and Chignik District permit holders.

The Kodiak District commercial Tanner crab season will open at noon on January 15, 2022 unless delayed by weather. The 2022 Kodiak District Tanner crab GHG is below 2,000,000 pounds; therefore, the regulatory pot limit is 20 pots per vessel in the Eastside, Southeast, and Southwest Sections and 70 pots per vessel in the Semidi Island Overlap Section.

**Chignik District:** A single mature male abundance threshold is established for the Chignik District (5 AAC 35.507(b)(2)). Abundance must be sufficient to provide for a minimum GHG of 200,000 pounds before a commercial Tanner crab fishery may occur in the district. Based on 2021 survey results, the Chignik District exceeded regulatory thresholds necessary for a 2022 commercial Tanner crab season. **The 2022 Chignik District commercial Tanner crab GHG will be 200,000 pounds.**

The Chignik District commercial Tanner crab season will open at noon on January 15, 2022 unless delayed by weather. The 2022 Chignik District Tanner crab GHG is below 2,000,000 pounds; therefore, the regulatory pot limit is 30 pots per vessel. Vessels greater than 58 feet in overall length may not participate in the Chignik District commercial Tanner crab fishery.

**South Peninsula District:** Mature male abundance thresholds are established for two sections (Eastern and Western) in the South Peninsula District (5 AAC 35.507(b)(3)(A and B)). Abundance must be sufficient to provide for a minimum GHG of 200,000 pounds before either section may open to commercial fishing. Based on 2021 survey results, both the Eastern and Western Districts exceeded regulatory thresholds necessary for a 2022 commercial Tanner crab season. **The 2022 South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab GHGs will be 200,000 pounds in the Eastern Section and 300,000 pounds in the Western Section.**

The South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab season will open at noon on January 15, 2022 unless delayed by weather. The 2022 South Peninsula District Tanner crab GHG is below 2,000,000 pounds; therefore, the regulatory pot limit is 20 pots per vessel. Vessels greater than 58 feet in overall length may not participate in the South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab fishery.

All Tanner crab fisheries will be monitored inseason and district/section or subdistrict/subsection closures may occur before the GHGs are fully harvested based on fishery performance and harvest distribution. Additional information regarding registration, weather delays, inseason catch reporting, and fishery management actions will be provided in subsequent advisory announcements prior to the season opening.

For more information on Tanner crab harvest strategies or survey results, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

### ***COVID-19***

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, 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 Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>

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