

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
**Sam Rabung, Director**

Nome Office  
PO Box 1148  
Nome, AK 99762-1148



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**  
**Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner**

PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

## **Advisory Announcement**

*For Immediate Release: May 23, 2022*

**CONTACT: Jim Menard or Kevin Clark**

**Norton Sound Area Manager & Asst. Area Manager  
(907) 443-5167 (800) 560-2271**

### **NORTON SOUND KING CRAB SUMMER OPEN ACCESS COMMERCIAL FISHERY TO OPEN**

The Norton Sound king crab summer open access commercial fishery will open at 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 15. Anyone who is now subsistence crabbing and plans to participate in this year's summer commercial crab fishery must stop subsistence crabbing by Wednesday, noon, June 8 and return their subsistence permit to Fish & Game or report their catch online before commercial fishing.

No buyer has registered for the summer commercial crab season yet, but Norton Sound Seafood Products (NSSP) has notified the department that they intend to register and buy crab during the summer season but may not begin buying until late June or early July. Until there is a buyer, crab permit holders must be a direct marketer or catcher-seller to sell their catch.

During the 2022 winter commercial fishery 8 permit holders caught 7,357 pounds of red king crab. The guideline harvest level (GHL) for the winter commercial fishery was 27,328 pounds. The total Norton Sound red king crab GHL for the winter and summer commercial fisheries is 341,600 pounds and of that amount, 7.5% is reserved for the CDQ fishery. The 25,620 pounds reserved for the CDQ fishery combined with the winter commercial catch is 32,977 pounds resulting in 308,623 pounds available in the summer open access commercial fishery.

Commercial crab permit holders must register at the Fish & Game office in Nome to receive crab pot tags before crabbing. Village residents can call 1-800-560-2271 to register and crab pot tags will be sent via local airlines. Catcher-sellers must also register before selling crab.

Catcher-seller application forms can be picked up at the Nome Fish & Game office or can be obtained online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishlicense.sellers](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishlicense.sellers)

When crabbing, permit holders must be in possession of their 2022 Norton Sound king crab commercial permit and a government issued ID card, or driver's license. Those assisting a commercial permit holder must be in possession of a 2022 commercial crewmember license, or a 2022 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit for any fishery can substitute. Crewmember licenses are available at the Nome Fish & Game office or can be bought online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/)

For further information please contact the Nome office at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271.

Good Luck and Good Crabbing and Be Safe Out There!