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NORTON SOUND RED KING CRAB SUMMER FISHERY

The 2022 Norton Sound red king crab summer commercial fishery opened on June 15 and closed on July 24. This year's harvest was the first harvest for the summer fishery since 2019. The open access fishery harvest was 291,553 pounds and an additional 25,620 pounds was harvested in the CDQ fishery. Twenty-six permit holders participated in the summer fishery.

Adjusting for inflation only the late 1970s and early 1980s had a higher ex-vessel value during the "big boat" fishing years when the commercial fishery started in Norton Sound. A regulation change in 1994 resulted in a smaller boat, super-exclusive, fishery that continues to this day. A combination of a record \$12 per pound paid for crab this summer and the best harvest since 2017 resulted in a record ex-vessel value of 3.7 million dollars for the super-exclusive fishery.

Congratulations to the Norton Sound crab fishing fleet and to Norton Sound Seafood Products, their dock, tender and processing crews, and their office staff on a great season.

