



Advisory Announcement
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CONTACT: Joe Stratman
Lead Shellfish Biologist
joseph.stratman@alaska.gov
(907) 772-5238

SOUTHEAST ALASKA 2023/2024 COMMERCIAL BEAM TRAWL SHRIMP FISHERY SEASON

The Southeast Alaska commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery opens **May 1, 2023**. Vessel registration is required to participate in the beam trawl fishery.

Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) for the 2023/2024 Season

Participation in the Southeast beam trawl shrimp fishery has increased since the 2015/2016 season. The department implemented precautionary GHLs in Districts 6 & 8 beginning in the 2016/2017 season to prevent overharvest of stocks with minimal stock status information, while allowing for fishery development and expansion of trawl shrimp markets. These GHLs for traditional and nontraditional areas will remain unchanged for the 2023/2024 season (Tables 1 & 2).

To maximize fleet opportunity in Districts 6 & 8, any unharvested GHL remaining after a period closes will be added to the next harvest period (up to the maximum guideline harvest range (GHR) for that period); any GHL remaining for the next period will be rolled into the following period. This harvest strategy will allow the fleet to target shrimp during different seasons as market conditions dictate. Table 3 shows how this management strategy would have been implemented during the 2015/2016 season, i.e., when the GHL is not caught in the initial period, the “rollover” increases the GHL in subsequent periods allowing the fleet the opportunity to fish in later periods while still constraining the total harvest within the bounds that allowed for historical expansion of harvest in these districts.

Advisory announcements will be issued two weeks after the start of a fishing period to announce any GHL rollover from the previous period.

Table 1. Guideline harvest levels (GHLs) in pounds by fishing period, and spot and coonstripe shrimp bycatch limits in pounds by fishing area for the 2023/2024 beam trawl shrimp fishery in traditional areas of Southeast Alaska.

GHL by fishing period	Traditional areas ¹			
	District 6 ¹	District 7 ¹	District 8	District 10 ¹
May 1–June 30	300,000	50,000	250,000	75,000
July 1–August 31	290,000	50,000	175,000	75,000
September 1–October 31			180,000	
September 1–February 28	160,000	50,000		75,000
November 1–February 28			65,000	
Spot shrimp season bycatch limit	1,000	1,000	6,000	1,000
Coonstripe shrimp season bycatch limit	9,000	1,000	10,000	3,000

1. See 5 AAC 31.111(a)(2) in the 2022–2023 Statewide Commercial Fishing Regulations Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish booklet for specific descriptions of traditional beam trawl areas in Districts 6, 7, and 10.

Table 2. Guideline harvest levels (GHLs) in pounds and spot and coonstripe shrimp bycatch limits in pounds by fishing area for the 2023/2024 beam trawl shrimp fishery in nontraditional areas of Southeast Alaska.

GHL for season	Nontraditional areas ¹							
	District							
	3	5	6 ¹	7 ¹	9	10 ¹	11-A,B,C	11-D
May 1–February 28	----- 100,000 in each District -----						75,000 ²	150,000
Spot shrimp season bycatch limit	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	1,000 ³	1,000 ⁴
Coonstripe shrimp season bycatch limit	3,000	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	7,000	4,000 ³	1,000 ⁴

1. See 5 AAC 31.111(a)(3) in the 2022–2023 Statewide Commercial Fishing Regulations Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish booklet for specific descriptions of non-traditional beam trawl areas in Districts 6, 7, and 10.
2. GHLs per section.
3. Allowable bycatch for Sections 11-A and 11-B combined as stated in 5 AAC 31.116(b)(9)(A).
4. Allowable bycatch for Sections 11-C and 11-D combined as stated in 5 AAC 31.116(b)(9)(B).

Spot and Coonstripe shrimp bycatch

Trip and seasonal beam trawl bycatch limits for spot and coonstripe shrimp (less than 60 count per pound) are in effect, except in District 11, where the combined spot and coonstripe trip bycatch limit is 10 percent of the whole weight of all pink and sidestripe shrimp on board the vessel. Seasonal bycatch limits along with shrimp GHRs, and fishing periods for traditional and nontraditional fishing areas are summarized in Tables 1 and 2. Specific regulatory language may be found under 5 AAC 31.116 in the 2022–2023 Statewide Commercial Fishing Regulations Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish booklet.

Table 3: Example of how the rolling guideline harvest levels (GHLs) would have revised period-specific GHLs within their respective guideline harvest range (GHR) for the 2015/2016 season in the traditional fishing areas of Districts 6 and 8.

	2015/2016 Preseason GHL		2015/2016 Harvest		Rollover Available (For Next Period)		Adjusted GHL (Preseason + Rollover)	
	District 6	District 8	District 6	District 8	District 6	District 8	District 6	District 8
	GHR by fishing period:	80,000 to 400,000	25,000 to 250,000	80,000 to 400,000	25,000 to 250,000	80,000 to 400,000	25,000 to 250,000	80,000 to 400,000
May 1–Jun 30	300,000	250,000	144,735	115,124	155,265	134,876	300,000	250,000
July 1–Aug 31	290,000	175,000	14,540	82,393	275,460	92,607	400,000	250,000
Sep 1–Oct 31	NA	180,000	NA	26,320	NA	153,680	NA	250,000
Sep 1–Feb 28	160,000	NA	105,154	NA	NA	NA	400,000	NA
Nov 1–Feb 28	NA	65,000	NA	243,855	NA	NA	NA	250,000
Total	750,000	675,000	264,429	467,692	430,725	341,163	750,000 ^b	675,000 ^b

^b Total harvest is still constrained to the preseason GHL, the increased GHLs in periods 2–4 shown in the “Adjusted GHL” columns include rollover of pounds not harvested in the previous periods.

NA: Last period

Fish ticket and logbook completion

Logbooks are required in all fishing areas and used to assess fishery performance and set GHLs the following season. Logbooks printed in duplicate are available at the Petersburg area office or by mail. Logbooks must be completed and attached to the corresponding fish tickets upon landing. Fishermen are also reminded that they are required by regulation to report on fish tickets at the time of landing any shrimp harvested which are not purchased by the processor or buyer, or which have been discarded at sea [5 AAC 31.075 (a)]. Each buyer shall indicate on the fish ticket the gross weight of shrimp not purchased from a load [5 AAC 31.075 (b)]. In order to more easily track spot and coonstripe bycatch trip limits, fishermen are also asked to submit a copy of their fish ticket or dock slip from their pink and sidestripe landing when selling spot and coonstripe bycatch to a separate buyer. The spot and coonstripe bycatch buyer shall then attach the copy of the fish ticket from the pink and sidestripe landing to the ADF&G copy of the ticket they complete. All fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of delivery [5 AAC 39.130 (c)].

Catcher–processor reporting requirements

A catcher–processor is a commercial fisherman who catches and processes their own product on board [5 AAC 31.143(e)(2)]. A catcher–processor cannot buy or process shrimp from another fishing vessel or tender. Each week, an owner or operator of a shrimp beam trawl catcher–processor vessel operating in the waters of Registration Area A shall contact, by telephone, the ADF&G area office in Petersburg (907-772-5238) before 12:00 noon, Wednesday, during normal business hours of 8:00 am through 5:00 pm; the following information must be provided at the time of contact:

- 1) permit holder’s name;
- 2) vessel name and ADF&G number;
- 3) the following information regarding ADF&G fish tickets;
 - a) ADF&G fish ticket number of each fish ticket used since last contact;
 - b) date of landing on each fish ticket;
 - c) district and statistical area on each fish ticket;
 - d) total trawling bottom time, for each district and subdistrict for the preceding week;
 - e) total pounds of whole shrimp taken by species;
- 4) date of last delivery;
- 5) any other information the commissioner determines is necessary for the conservation and management of the fishery.

Pounds of whole shrimp by species since the last call-in and cumulative pounds of whole shrimp on board since the last delivery should match what is reported on daily fish tickets and entered in required logbooks. The total time as reported during call-ins should be the summation for all hauls of the time the trawl was on the bottom since the last call-in and should match what is entered in required logbooks. Fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of the closure of a district or portion of a district for which a distinct guideline harvest level exists. A shrimp beam trawl catcher–processor vessel that has stopped fishing in a district or portion of a district for which a distinct guideline harvest level exists shall contact, by telephone or in person, the Petersburg ADF&G area office and report the information specified in this paragraph before fishing in a new district or portion of a district with a GHF established by ADF&G [5 AAC 31.143 (c) (2)]. ADF&G intends to provide adequate notice of pending closures, but fishermen should be aware that it is their responsibility to stay informed as to when a closure may occur. To keep catch information confidential, each catcher–processor should contact the Petersburg ADF&G office to arrange a catch-reporting schedule.

Catcher–seller reporting requirements

A catcher–seller is a commercial fisherman who catches and either sells or attempts to sell unprocessed shrimp to a person not licensed to process shrimp [5 AAC 31.143(e)(3)]. The owner or operator of a catcher–seller vessel must complete a fish ticket indicating the weight of the shrimp on board by species before any shrimp are removed from the vessel.

Rockfish possession and landing requirements for the Eastern Gulf of Alaska area

All fishermen participating in the beam trawl fishery for shrimp in Southeast Alaska must retain, weigh, and report all demersal shelf rockfish by species on the fish ticket [5 AAC 28.171 (b)]. Beam trawl permit holders are allowed a combined demersal shelf rockfish bycatch of 1% of the directed shrimp catch. Demersal shelf rockfish species include canary, China, copper, quillback, rosethorn, tiger, and yelloweye rockfish. The bycatch percentage is calculated based on the round weight of rockfish divided by the whole weight of shrimp. Bycatch of rockfish can be sold, used for personal use, or donated, but must be weighed and reported on the shrimp fish ticket. Bycatch in excess of allowable limits shall be reported by species as an overage on ADF&G fish tickets. Proceeds from the sale of excess rockfish bycatch shall be surrendered to the state.

Dual fishery registration prohibitions

A vessel may not be registered for the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery and the commercial Dungeness crab fishery at the same time [5 AAC 31.128(d)]. **Also, a vessel may not be registered for the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery and the commercial pot shrimp fishery at the same time [5 AAC 31.128 (c)].** However, a vessel owner, or the owner’s agent, may cancel a vessel’s registration for the commercial beam trawl shrimp fishery and register a vessel for the commercial Dungeness crab fishery or pot shrimp fishery, **provided all regulatory requirements are met**, by contacting a local ADF&G representative, in person, and providing all requested information.

Other information

Fishermen are also reminded to review pertinent regulations on pages 1–30 of the 2022–2023 Statewide Commercial Fishing Regulations Shrimp, Dungeness crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish booklet, or view online at:

https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2022_2023_cf_shrimp_dungeness_misc_s_hellfish_regs.pdf

Advisory announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3255