



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: September 26, 2023

CONTACT: Tessa Bergmann
Region I Shellfish Biologist
tessa.bergmann@alaska.gov
(907) 772-3801

**2023/2024 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB
FALL/WINTER FISHERY**

As previously announced for the 2023 commercial Dungeness crab fishery, the department estimated the full season harvest from landings and effort information from the first week of the summer season. This projection indicated that the total season's harvest would exceed 2.25 million pounds as required by 5 AAC 32.146 for a full season length. According to 5 AAC 32.110, all waters open to commercial Dungeness crab fishing will open at **8:00 a.m. on October 1, 2023**.

Lost Gear

Reporting of lost pots should be directed to your local Alaska Wildlife Trooper office in the following locations:

- Haines (907) 766-2533
- Juneau (907) 465-4000
- Petersburg (907) 772-3983
- Wrangell (907) 874-3215
- Sitka (907) 747-3254
- Ketchikan (907) 225-5111

Closed Waters

Regulatory closed waters within Registration Area A (Figures 1 and 2) are listed in 5 AAC 32.150. Permit holders are reminded that the closed waters for Shinaku Inlet, Whale Pass, and Natzuhini Bay were adopted into regulation at the 2022 Alaska Board of Fisheries Meeting. Waters of Glacier Bay are closed by federal regulation to commercial Dungeness crab fishing. Please contact the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve at (907) 697-2230 for more information.

Fishermen are reminded that the Annette Islands Reserve is a federally recognized Indian reservation in Alaska. The waters within 3,000 feet of Annette Island, Ham Island, Hemlock Island, Spire Island, Walker Island, Lewis Island, and adjacent rocks and islets are designated to be within the fishing reserve. Fisheries within the reserve are managed by the Metlakatla Indian Community for authorized fisheries participants. For more information on these closed waters, contact the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) office of law enforcement at (907) 247-5804.

European Green Crab

Invasive European green crab have recently been documented in the waters of the Annette Islands Reserve. Salmon and shellfish habitat can be destroyed by European green crabs. More information on European green crab, including how to identify and report sightings of suspect crabs, can be found on the department's website at:

https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=invasiveprofiles.europeangreencrab_characteristics.

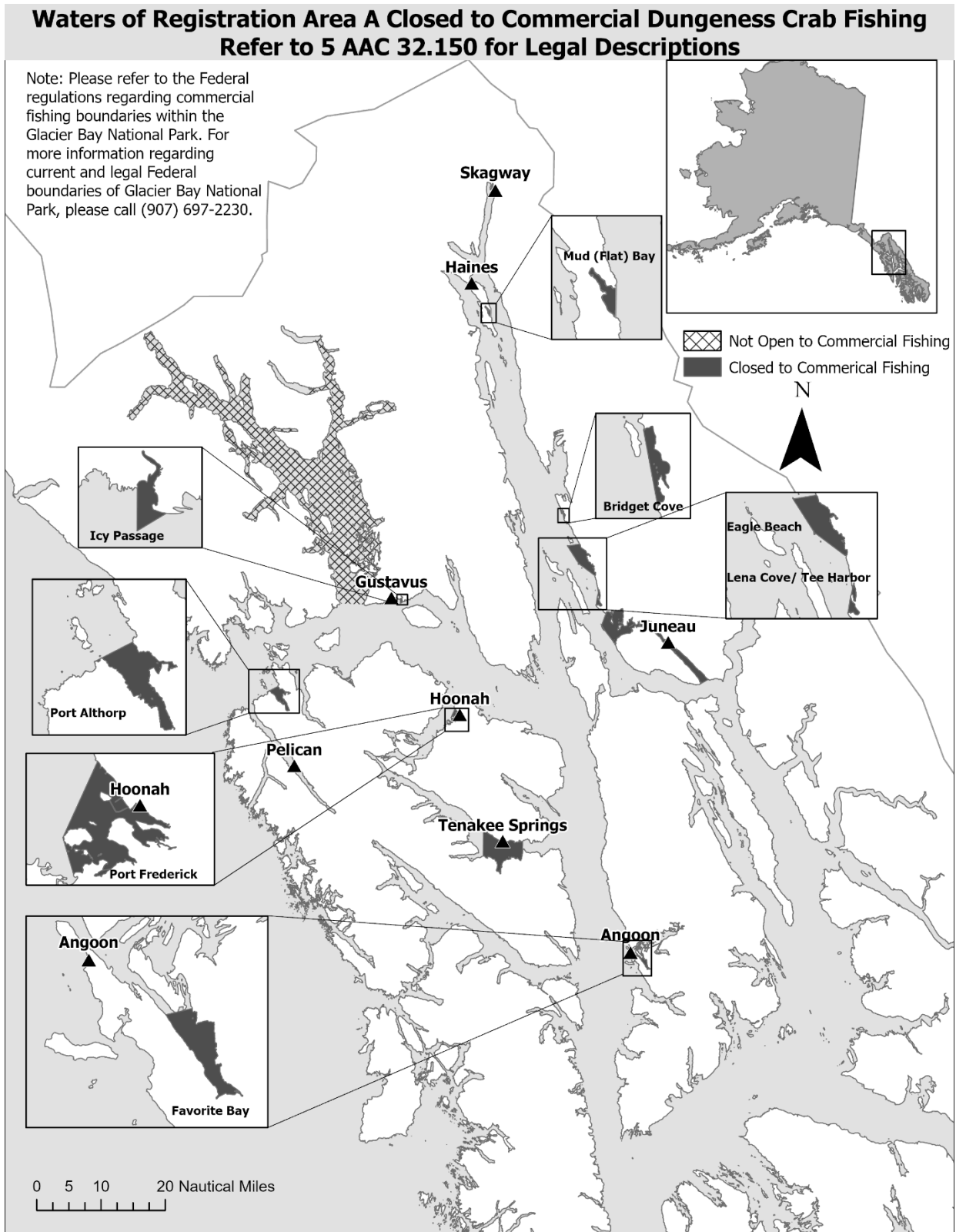


Figure 1. Closed areas for the 2023/24 commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the northern portion of Registration Area A. This map is intended for general reference only. Please refer to 5 AAC 32.150 for legal descriptions of closed areas.

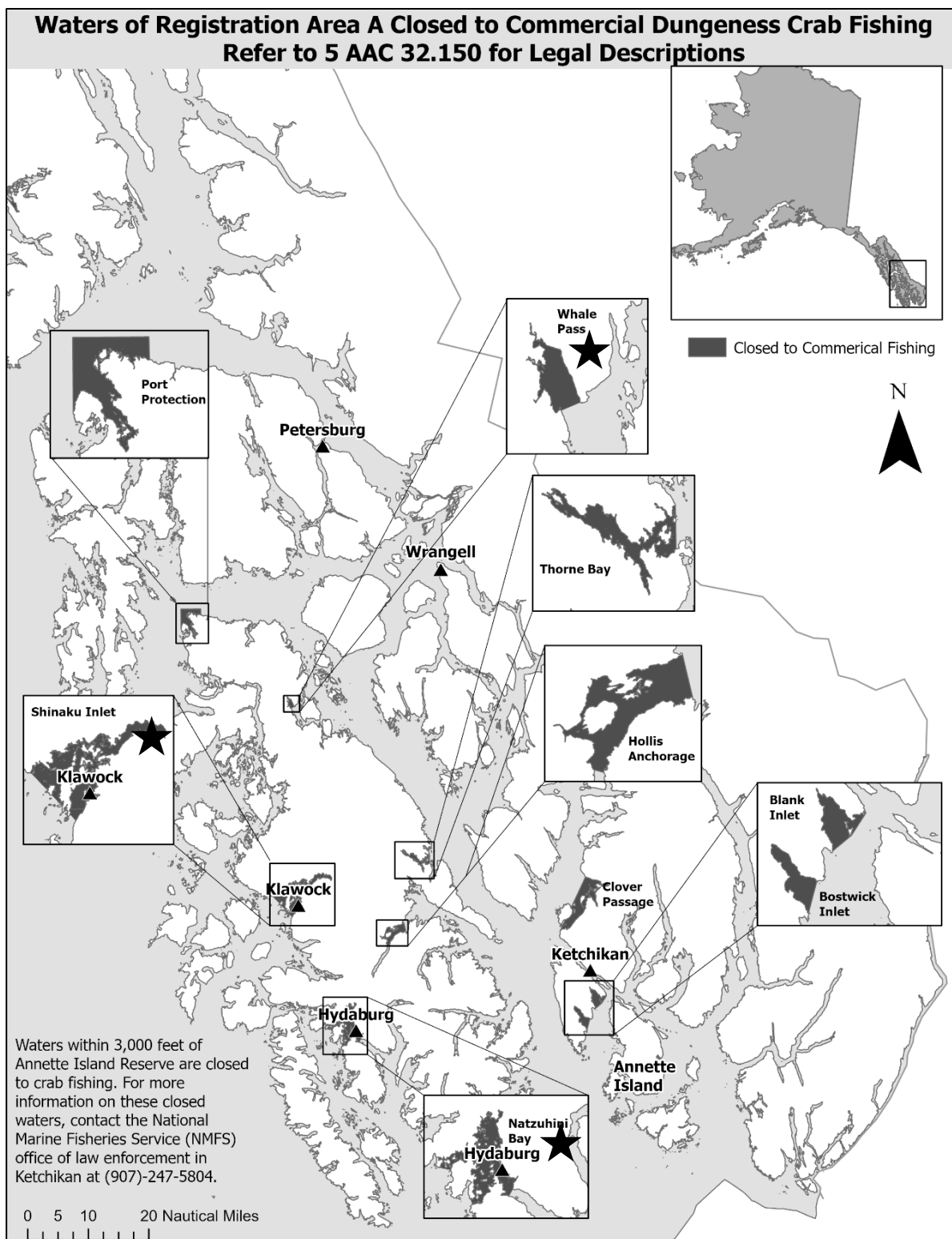


Figure 2. Closed areas for the 2023/24 commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the southern portion of Registration Area A. The stars mark the closed areas which went into effect on September 25, 2022. This map is intended for general reference only. Please refer to 5 AAC 32.150 for legal descriptions of closed areas.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220