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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: April 25, 2024 CONTACT: Martin Schuster or Andy Pollak Shellfish Area Management Biologists (907) 235-8191

Prince William Sound Area Shrimp Pot Fishery First Fishing Period Extended Emergency Order 2-SF-E-04-24

Commercial fishing in the Prince William Sound (PWS) commercial shrimp pot season will be extended from 8:00 p.m. Monday, April 29 until 8:00 p.m. Monday, May 13, unless closed earlier by emergency order. The guideline harvest level (GHL), for the 2024 season, is 46,809 lb. Preliminary harvest as of April 25 at 8:00 a.m. is approximately 10,900 lbs of whole shrimp harvested by 61 vessels. Estimated catch per unit effort (CPUE) is 0.9 lbs of whole shrimp per pot. Harvest from call-in reports and fish tickets indicate that the fishery can remain open without risk of exceeding the GHL.

Gear limits will remain at 35 shrimp pots per vessel and hours of gear operation will remain from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily. Participants are reminded that only 50% of the GHL may be harvested in any one statistical area (5 AAC 31.214) and to **monitor advisory announcements and the call-in reporting line** for potential statistical area or period closures.

Reminders to participants:

- 1) Check in **EVERY TIME** you depart for fishing by calling the reporting line at (907) 226-3474.
- 2) Fish tickets and call-in reporting information must have effort and harvest separated by Statistical Area.
- 3) Pots may only be pulled by the ADF&G registered vessel associated with the gear.
- 4) Shrimp harvested by a vessel **CANNOT** be transported by another vessel participating in the fishery (except for a registered tender).
- 5) Logbook pages **MUST** be filled out completely and accurately each day and submitted with corresponding fish ticket(s).

Participants must call the reporting line with pre-trip and landing reports at (907) 226-3474 in order for ADF&G to monitor harvest; information to be reported is detailed in the registration packet that all registrants received. Reporting requirements must be followed exactly, and enforcement action will result for non-compliance. Contact ADF&G at (907) 235-8191 for further information.



Figure 1.–2024 Prince William Sound Area shrimp pot fishery Area 3.