

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
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**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: January 21, 2025***

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**Norton Sound 2025 Winter Commercial Crab Fishery Opens February 1**

**Winter Commercial Crab Fishing**

- The winter commercial crab fishery will open Saturday, February 1, 2025.
- The Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) for the winter fishery is 8% of the total commercial GHL and will be 32,800lbs.

At present, no buyers have registered for the 2025 winter commercial crab season. Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) permit holders intending to participate will need their own market (i.e. a catcher-seller permit or other direct marketing program). All crabbers must contact the Nome Fish & Game office to register their catcher-seller or other direct marketing permits and before they can sell crab to the public. Catcher-seller and direct marketer application forms can be picked at the Nome Fish & Game office or can be obtained online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishlicense.main](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishlicense.main)

CFEC crab permit holders must register at the Fish & Game office in Nome and receive crab pot tags before crabbing. Village residents can call 907-443-2825 to register and crab pot tags will be sent via local airlines.

Those assisting in the commercial fishery must be in possession of a 2025 commercial crewmember license or a 2025 State of Alaska commercial fishery permit for any fishery can substitute. Crewmember licenses are available at the Nome ADF&G office or can be bought online at [www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/)

Crab pots in the winter commercial crab fishery must be set through the ice and regulations require those intending to participate in the commercial crab fishery to stop subsistence crab fishing 14 days before the season start date. Therefore, anyone intending to participate in the winter commercial crab fishery as a permit holder or crewmember must stop subsistence crab fishing before January 18, 2025.

Good Luck and Good Crabbing.