Division of Commercial Fisheries Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: April 6, 2025

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2025 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERY NORTH STEPHENS PASSAGE AREA CLOSURE

The commercial golden king crab fishery in the North Stephens Passage Area will close at **12:00 noon, Friday, April 11, 2025**. Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest is expected to reach the 8,000-pound guideline harvest level for the North Stephens Passage Area by the closure date. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

The department will continue to monitor fishery performance with fish tickets, logbooks, and port sampling information for the remaining open management areas, Southern and Lower Chatham Strait. Additional management action may be taken as necessary; the department will provide as much advance notice as possible for future management area closures.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days following the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the North Stephens Passage Area no later than 12:00 noon, April 16, 2025.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C1225.

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

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