



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: December 31, 2025

CONTACT: Bo Meredith
Ketchikan Area Management Biologist
bo.meredith@alaska.gov
(907) 225-5195

**KASAAN BAY AND SKOWL ARM PERSONAL USE SHRIMP POT FISHERY
REMAINS CLOSED**

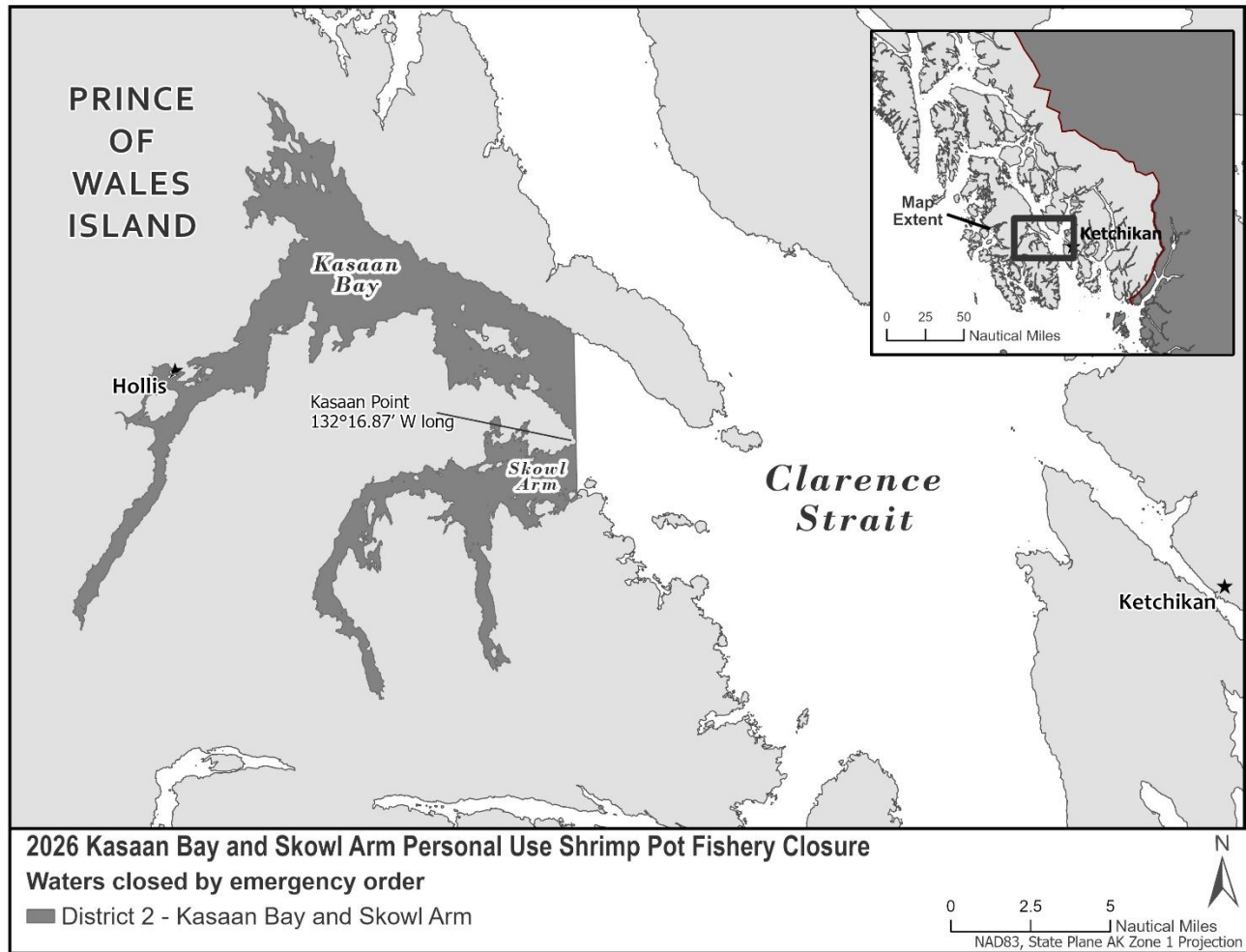
The personal use shrimp pot fishery in Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm **will remain closed** from 12:01 a.m., Thursday, January 1, through Thursday, December 31, 2026. The closed waters include all waters of Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm west of the longitude of Kasaan Point at 132°16.87' W long (Figure 1).

The Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm personal use shrimp pot fishery closed in 2025, beginning July 5. This closure was implemented due to significant decreases in abundance observed in department pot survey catch per unit effort (CPUE) data, commercial shrimp pot fishery data, and poor personal use harvest throughout the area. Department surveys conducted annually since 2011 show steady declines in survey CPUE from 2020 through 2022, followed by a sharp decline in fall 2023. Those surveys also showed reductions across all size classes and extremely poor recruitment of small size class shrimp, indicating low abundance of recruits and pre-recruits. Continued indicators of poor stock health combined with weak commercial fishery performance in recent seasons, resulted in the closure of the commercial fishery for the 2025/26 season and concurrent closures to personal use and sport fisheries beginning July 5, 2025. The department's most recent shrimp pot survey in the fall of 2025 indicated further decreases in abundance, with CPUE rates and total harvest the lowest recorded since the survey began in the district in 2011. The personal use shrimp pot fishery closure will extend through the 2026 season.

Due to both declining commercial fishery performance data and department survey data, Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm were closed to the commercial harvest of spot shrimp for three years during the 2015–2017 commercial shrimp pot seasons then reopened for the 2018/19 season with minimal effort. Commercial CPUE peaked during the 2019/20 and 2020/21 seasons before declining sharply in the 2021/22 season. The commercial shrimp pot fishery was open for only two days during the 2024/25 season before being closed and remained closed during the 2025/26 season. The commercial closure will continue through the 2026/27 season.

The intention of this closure is to allow the spot shrimp abundance in Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm to rebuild to levels that allow sustainable harvest for all user groups. This closure will remain in effect for the 2026 season and will be reevaluated following completion of the department's annual shrimp pot survey in the fall.

The Division of Commercial Fisheries Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1C0926.



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