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Advisory Announcement
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2026 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERY
MID-CHATHAM STRAIT AREA CLOSURE

The commercial golden king crab fishery in the Mid-Chatham Strait Management Area will close at **4:00 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2026**. Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest is expected to reach the 44,500-pound guideline harvest level for the Mid-Chatham Strait Management Area by the closure. Permit holders are reminded that daily 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: Lower Northern, Lower Chatham Strait, and Southern. Additional management actions may be taken as necessary; the department will provide as much advance notice as possible for future area closures.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days following the closure of a portion of Registration Area A, if all king crab pot doors are secured fully open and all bait and bait containers are removed [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the Mid-Chatham Strait Management Area no later than 4:00 p.m., March 31, 2026.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C4826.

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

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| <i>ADF&G</i> | <i>225-5195</i> | <i>772-3801</i> | | <i>747-6688</i> | <i>465-4250</i> | <i>766-2830</i> | <i>784-3255</i> |
| <i>AWT</i> | <i>225-5111</i> | <i>772-3983</i> | <i>874-3215</i> | <i>747-3254</i> | <i>465-4000</i> | <i>766-2533</i> | <i>784-3255</i> |