



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 22, 2026

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL DUNGENESS CRAB SEASON CLOSURE

The summer season for the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in Registration Area A (Southeast) has been reduced in duration and will close by emergency order **at 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, July 25, 2026**, in accordance with the Southeastern Alaska Dungeness Crab Management Plan [5 AAC 32.146] and as previously announced on June 29, 2026. Reporting of lost pots or pots left in a closed area in fishing condition should be directed to Alaska Wildlife Troopers (AWT) offices in Juneau or Ketchikan.

All Dungeness crab must be landed within 24 hours of the closure [5 AAC 32.031(d)]. Vessel operators unable to meet this deadline must contact department shellfish staff **within 24 hours following the closure** to request authorization to possess Dungeness crab for an extended period. To request extended holding, contact Joe Stratman at (907) 772-5238.

A person may store Dungeness crab pots in waters closed to fishing for Dungeness crab for no more than seven days after the closure to fishing for Dungeness crab in Registration Area A, if all pot doors are secured fully open and all bait and bait containers are removed [5 AAC 32.052(b)(1)(A)]. Gear storage extensions due to extreme weather or a major vessel breakdown may be obtained by contacting department shellfish staff [5 AAC 32.052(c)] **before 11:59 p.m., Saturday, August 1, 2026**. To request a gear storage extension, contact Joe Stratman at (907) 772-5238.

The Southeast Alaska commercial Dungeness crab fishery will reopen for the fall/winter season at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 1, 2026 [5 AAC 32.110]. Season length for the 2026/27 commercial Dungeness crab fall/winter fishing season will be announced at a later date after a thorough review of all available fishery performance data.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C5426.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
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