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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: **November 7, 2026**

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2026 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL RED AND BLUE KING CRAB FISHERY NORTH STEPHENS PASSAGE AREA CLOSURE

The commercial red and blue king crab fishery in the North Stephens Passage Management Area will close on **November 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest is expected to reach the guideline harvest level for the North Stephens Passage Management Area by the closure. Permit holders are reminded that daily call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants and are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

The department will continue to monitor fishery performance via call-in information, fish tickets, logbooks, and port sampling information for the remaining open management areas: Eastern Frederick Sound, Icy Strait/Outer Coast, Lower Chatham Strait, Lynn Canal, Northern Chatham Strait, and Southern. Additional management actions may be taken as necessary, and 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 [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. For vessels registered for the red king crab fishery, all gear must be removed from the North Stephens Passage Management Area no later than November 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C6026.

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

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