



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: January 9, 2020

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**SOUTHEAST ALASKA GOLDEN KING CRAB PERSONAL USE FISHERY
CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT**

Douglas . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (department) announced today that the personal use golden king crab fishery in the Northern Area will remain closed and personal use golden king crab fishery in the East Central, Mid-Chatham Strait, and Lower Chatham Strait Areas will close at 12:00 noon, **Monday, February 17, 2020.**

The Northern, East Central, Mid-Chatham Strait, and Lower Chatham Strait management areas will be closed for the 2019/2020 season in response to continued and historically low fishery performance and concern for the long-term reproductive potential of golden king crab. Golden king crab are vulnerable to overexploitation once fished below sustainable levels given their slow growth and late maturation. In prior seasons, the department has continued to implement reductions in GHGs and closing management areas before harvest has reached GHGs. However, fishery performance has continued to decline and has reached historical lows and appears to be longer in duration than that experienced during the 1990s collapse, warranting further management action to allow for the rebuilding of golden king crab stocks and to ensure sustainable fisheries in the future [5 AAC 77.664(b)]. Refer to Figure 1 for a map showing open and closed waters for personal use golden king crab fishing effective at **12:00 noon, February 17, 2020.**

Closed Area Descriptions (effective February 17, 2020)

- Northern Area [5 AAC 34.107(a)]: all waters of Section 11-A, Section 13-C, and Section 13-A in Peril Strait east of Point Kakul at 57°21.83' N. lat., 135°41.42' W. long., and all waters of Districts 12 and 15.
- East Central Area [5 AAC 34.107(d)]: all waters of Section 11-D, District 10, and District 9 east of a line from Kingsmill Point at 56°50.00' N. lat., 134°25.17' W. long., to Point Gardner at 57°01.00' N. lat., 134°37.00' W. long., all waters of District 8 north of the latitude of Blaquiere Point at 56°35.00' N. lat., all waters of Section 6-A, and all waters of District 5 north of the latitude of Point Baker at 56°21.53' N. lat.
- Mid-Chatham Strait Area [5 AAC 34.107(e)]: all waters of District 9 north of the latitude of Point Ellis at 56°33.67' N. lat. and west of a line from Kingsmill Point to Point Gardner.
- Lower Chatham Strait Area [5 AAC 34.107(f)]: all waters of District 9 south of the latitude of Point Ellis at 56°33.67' N. lat., and that portion of District 13-B south of the latitude of Redfish Cape at 56°18.67' N. lat.

For general information about the personal use golden king crab fishery, including season length, bag and possession limits, and permit requirements, please refer to the department news release dated June 25, 2019.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0520.

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

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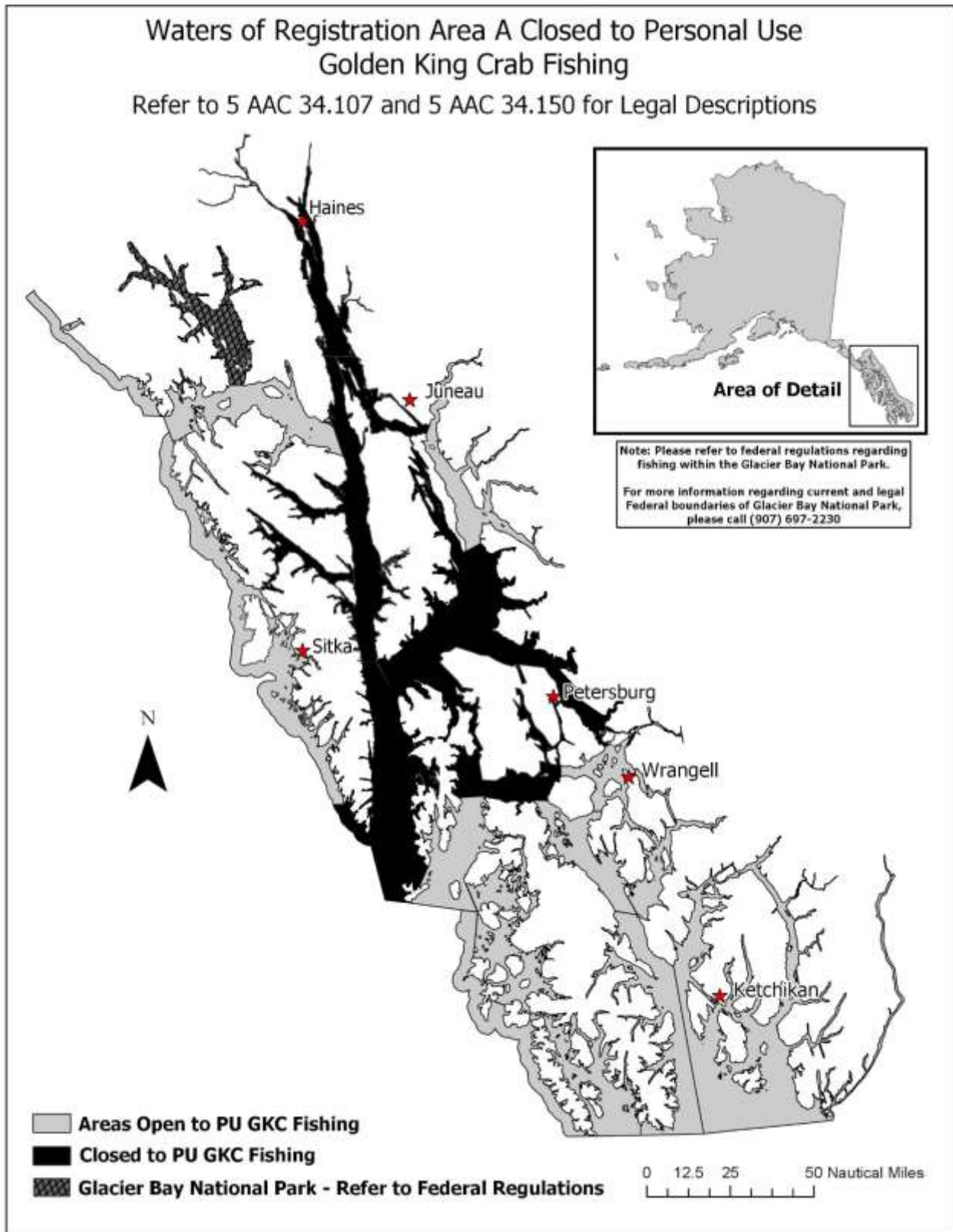


Figure 1. Effective at 12:00 noon February 17, 2020, waters of Southeast Alaska closed to the retention of personal use golden king crab.