**Division of Commercial Fisheries** Sam Rabung, Director

Region I, Petersburg Area Office PO Box 667 Petersburg, AK 99833



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

> PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: February 17, 2020 CONTACT: Joe Stratman Region I Shellfish Biologist (907) 772-5238

## 2019/2020 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL TANNER CRAB FISHING SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT

Petersburg . . . The Registration Area A Tanner crab harvest strategy [5 AAC 35.113] establishes commercial Tanner crab fishing season length using estimated mature male biomass and the number of registered pots at the start of the fishery. As of 9:00 a.m., Monday, February 17, 2020, there are 62 pot vessels and 4,960 pots registered for the 2019/2020 commercial Tanner crab fishery. At the current estimated mature male biomass and effort level of 4,960 registered pots, the harvest strategy provides one additional day of season length in "core", "non-core", and "exploratory" areas. The 2019/2020 commercial Tanner crab fishery in Southeast Alaska will open in "core", "non-core", and "exploratory" areas (described in 5 AAC 35.113(c)) at 12:00 noon on Monday, February 17, 2020, close in "non-core" areas after eleven fishing days at 12:00 noon on Friday, February 28, 2020, and close in the "exploratory" area after twenty-five fishing days at 12:00 noon on Friday, March 13, 2020.

Shellfish management staff will be available in Juneau/Douglas and Petersburg for permit holders during the duration of the Tanner fishery, including the first two weekends and holidays on an "on-call" capacity. For assistance February 22-23 and February 29-March 1, shellfish management staff in Juneau/Douglas can be reached at (907) 723-3342 and (907) 957-2256, and in Petersburg at (907) 518-4421 and (907) 518-0755.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0720.

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

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