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Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Area Tanner Crab Commissioner's Permit Fishery Statistical Area 485931 Closes Emergency Order 2-SF-E-04-20

A Commissioner's Permit fishery for Tanner crab in the Eastern and Western Districts of Prince William Sound Area (PWS; 5 AAC 35.311) was opened on March 2. Catch per unit effort (CPUE) information from mandatory call-in reports indicates a decline in CPUE from statistical area 485931 (PWS outside waters) since March 10, 2020. In addition, CPUE in this statistical area is currently well below rates observed in both the 2018 and 2019 PWS Tanner crab fisheries, therefore to avoid localized depletion statistical area 485931 will close on Friday, March 20 at 10:00 p.m. Statistical area 486005 will remain closed.

Other statistical areas within the Eastern and Western Districts will remain open but fishermen should monitor announcements closely for future closures.

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