

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
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## **Advisory Announcement**

***For Immediate Release: July 10, 2024***

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**Norton Sound Area Manager and**  
**Shellfish Management Biologist**  
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### **NORTON SOUND KING CRAB SUMMER OPEN ACCESS COMMERCIAL FISHERY TO CLOSE**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) in Nome for commercial king crab fisherman in statistical area Q.

#### **Commercial crabbing in Area Q Norton Sound:**

- Effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, the Norton Sound king crab summer open access commercial fishery will close.
- At the time of closure all crab pots must have all bait and bait containers removed and doors secured open.
- All vessels must have all king crab delivered by 12:00 p.m. noon, Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, or be waiting to deliver in Nome, or at a crab tender, by this time.
- Vessels delivering outside of the registration area are required to notify the ADF&G office in Nome with an estimated time of arrival to their delivery location, approximate count of crab on board, and an approximate weight in pounds of crab on board before leaving registration area Q. They are additionally required to check in with the ADF&G office in Dutch Harbor before entering area M.

The Norton Sound red king crab fleet should harvest the remaining summer king crab open access fishery GHL by the time of the closure, based on current catch rates. The forecast is for fair weather this week, but crabbers are reminded to monitor conditions. Crabbers are also reminded that if they cannot unbait and remove pots due to sudden unexpected negative conditions, they must contact the department immediately.

Pots must be removed from the water by Saturday, July 20. In the event a vessel cannot remove their pots from the water due to unforeseen issues beyond the control of the fisherman, or if another vessel is required to retrieve pots due to mechanical issues, contact Kevin Clark or Ethan Kelso in the ADF&G office in advance.

For further information please contact the Nome office at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271.