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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release:*

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### **2025 Commercial Tanner Crab Fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts**

#### **Emergency Order 4-S-01-25**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) has established guideline harvest levels (GHLs) for the 2025 commercial Tanner crab fisheries in the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts. Guideline harvest levels are as follows:

| <b>District/Section</b> | <b>Tanner crab GHLs<br/>(pounds)</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Kodiak</b>           |                                      |
| Eastside                | 155,000                              |
| Southeast               | 405,000                              |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>560,000</b>                       |
| <b>Chignik</b>          |                                      |
|                         | <b>Closed</b>                        |
| <b>South Peninsula</b>  |                                      |
| Eastern                 | 210,000                              |
| Western                 | Closed                               |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>210,000</b>                       |

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has completed review of 2024 Tanner crab survey results for the Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts. Commercial Tanner crab fisheries in these districts may occur when the estimated abundance of mature male Tanner crab meets or exceeds abundance thresholds and minimum GHLs established in regulation (5 AAC 35.507. *Kodiak, Chignik, and South Peninsula Districts C. bairdi Tanner crab harvest strategies*).

**Kodiak District:** Mature male abundance thresholds are established for six sections in the Kodiak District (5 AAC 35.507(c)(1) and (2)). In sections that meet or exceed the abundance thresholds, abundance must also be sufficient to provide for a GHL of at least 100,000 pounds. Based on 2024 Kodiak District survey results, the Eastside and Southeast Sections exceeded regulatory thresholds necessary for a 2025 commercial Tanner crab

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season. **The 2025 Kodiak District commercial Tanner crab GHGs will be 155,000 pounds in the Eastside Section and 405,000 pounds in the Southeast Section.** The Northeast, Southwest, Westside, North Mainland, South Mainland, and Semidi Island Overlap Sections will remain closed for the 2025 commercial Tanner crab season.

The Kodiak District commercial Tanner crab season will open at 12:00 noon on January 15, 2025 unless delayed by weather. The 2025 Kodiak District Tanner crab GHG is less than 5,000,000 pounds; therefore, the regulatory pot limit will be 20 pots per vessel.

**Chignik District:** A single mature male abundance threshold is established for the Chignik District (5 AAC 35.507(c)(1) and (2)). Abundance must be sufficient to provide for a minimum GHG of 200,000 pounds before a commercial Tanner crab fishery may occur in the district. Based on 2024 survey results, the Chignik District was below the regulatory abundance threshold; therefore, **the Chignik District will remain closed for the 2025 commercial Tanner crab season.**

**South Peninsula District:** Mature male abundance thresholds are established for two sections (Eastern and Western) in the South Peninsula District (5 AAC 35.507(c)(1) and (2)). Abundance must be sufficient to provide for a minimum GHG of 200,000 pounds before either section may open to commercial fishing. Based on 2024 survey results, the Eastern Section exceeded regulatory thresholds necessary for a 2025 commercial Tanner crab season. **The 2025 South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab GHG will be 210,000 pounds in the Eastern Section.** The Western Section will remain closed for the 2025 commercial Tanner crab season. Subsection harvest targets may be established in the Eastern Section to apportion harvest based on survey distribution of legal male crab.

The South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab season will open at 12:00 noon on January 15, 2025 unless delayed by weather. The 2025 South Peninsula District Tanner crab GHG is less than 2,000,000 pounds; therefore, the regulatory pot limit will be 20 pots per vessel. Vessels greater than 58 feet in overall length may not participate in the South Peninsula District commercial Tanner crab fishery.

All Tanner crab fisheries will be monitored inseason and district/section or subdistrict/subsection closures may occur before the GHGs are fully harvested based on fishery performance and harvest distribution. Additional information regarding subsection harvest targets, registration, weather delays, inseason catch reporting, and fishery management actions will be provided in subsequent advisory announcements prior to the season opening.

For more information on Tanner crab harvest strategies or survey results, contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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