



Advisory Announcement

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SHRIMP POT FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

2026/2027 Fishing Season and Fishing Periods

The 2026/2027 shrimp pot fishing season will open at 8:00 a.m., Friday, May 15, 2026, in those shrimp pot fishing areas listed below and will close at 4:00 p.m., Friday, July 31, 2026, unless closed earlier by emergency order (5 AAC 31.110). Areas will close when guideline harvest levels (GHL) have been reached or are expected to be reached by the time of the closure. Shrimp pot fishing areas where the GHLs have not been reached by July 31, 2026, may be reopened on October 1, 2026, for the fall/winter season. The fall/winter shrimp pot fishing season will close by regulation on February 28, 2027.

The department has completed an annual review of available shrimp stock status information for each area with a distinct GHL and will manage the 2026/2027 season for GHLs identified in the table below. The preseason combined regional GHL for the 2026/2027 season is **382,600 pounds** of whole shrimp. **For a detailed description of GHL determinations for each shrimp pot fishing area, management approach for the 2026/27 season, and general overview of the shrimp pot fishery**, please review the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G or department) management memo found on the ADF&G website at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.shellfish#management>.

ADF&G will issue weekly fishery updates, usually on Thursday afternoons, to update fishers on the progress of the fishery. Advisory Announcements (AA) stating shrimp pot fishing area closures will be issued separately. Shrimp pot fishers should be aware that fishing time in certain shrimp pot fishing areas may be very limited and may close on short notice depending on harvest rates and effort levels. Fishers should also be aware that entire shrimp pot fishing areas or portions of those areas may close if the department has conservation concerns. If harvest rates are low or sharply decline as the season progresses, areas may be closed before the GHL has been reached to prevent excessive harvests.

Closures will be announced through the department's AA system, where permit holders are advised to subscribe to an email list or frequently check for AAs, including the closing of shrimp pot fishing areas. AAs can be found online at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

There are some areas that will close on short notice and may first be announced by department personnel from the fishing grounds via VHF. In addition, the department may request the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and/or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to announce closures over their VHF radio marine information broadcasts. However, this will not be the case for all shrimp fishing areas, and the department cannot guarantee that the closure will be announced via the USCG and/or NOAA marine information broadcasts.

Operation of shrimp fishing gear may only occur during daily fishing periods from 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. (5 AAC 31.124.[e][5]). This means that pots may only be hauled or deployed during this 8-hour period each day.

Shrimp Pot Fishing Areas

Shrimp pot fishing areas with distinct GHLs, as indicated in 5 AAC 31.115 *Shrimp pot guideline harvest ranges for Registration Area A* are comprised of entire districts, sections of a district or multiple districts, or areas within a district. Descriptions of fishing districts and sections can be found in 5 AAC 33.200 *Fishing districts and sections*. **Shrimp pot**

fishing areas that are a portion of a district or section are described in the area specific text below. General reference maps of commercial shrimp pot fishing areas and updated statistical area maps can be found at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.shellfish#maps>. Waters closed to shrimp pot fishing are included in 5 AAC 31.136 *Closed waters in Registration Area A*.

2025/26 season summary and GHGs for the 2026/27 season in pounds of whole shrimp.

Area	2025/2026 Closure Date	Days Open in 2025/2026	2014/15– 2024/25 Average Harvest	2025/2026 Harvest	2026/2027 GHL
District 1	May 27	13	57,600	40,000	40,000
District 2	May 30	16	37,700	22,400	20,000
Section 3-A	May 29	15	122,500	108,900	97,000
Sections 3-B/C	July 31	78	24,800	6,700	10,000
District 4	Feb 28	229	16,800	Confidential	20,000
District 5	Feb 28	229	3,000	Confidential	12,000
Sections 6-B/C/D/E	July 31	78	27,600	9,100	15,000
District 7	May 26	12	81,400	52,000	56,000
Sections 8-A/10-C	July 31	78	10,700	7,900	12,000
Sections 8-B/6-A	May 24	10	13,500	19,800	15,000
District 9	May 26	12	10,900	9,600	6,500
Sections 10-A/B	May 22	8	41,900	41,500	35,000
Sections 11-A/B/C	May 25	11	5,600	4,200	Closed
Section 11-D	N/A	N/A	10,600	Closed	Closed
District 12-Tenakee	N/A	N/A	8,800	Closed	Closed
District 12-Remainder	N/A	N/A	5,600	Closed	Closed
Sections 13-A/B	June 5	22	16,200	13,000	12,600
Section 13-C	N/A	N/A	19,700	Closed	Closed
District 14	N/A	N/A	6,700	Closed	7,500
District 15-East	July 31	78	3,800	Confidential	3,500
District 15 Remainder	July 31	78	7,400	Confidential	8,500
District 16	Feb 28	229	10,300	Confidential	12,000

Notes on Table: Bold type indicates GHL has changed from the previous season.

Management Approach and GHGs for 2026/2027 Season

Southeast Alaska shrimp pot fishery management practices will be like those implemented for the 2025/26 season. Information from fall surveys has been considered to adjust GHGs and/or fishing areas. If the fall surveys indicate that GHGs should be adjusted, the slow up and fast down approach is utilized. Increases in GHGs will be a maximum of 45% or up to the upper end of the Guideline Harvest Range (GHR). Decreases in GHGs will be a maximum of 45%; if data indicates larger decrements are necessary, the area may be closed for the season. If adjustments are warranted, the adjusted GHL may be announced prior to the start of the season. Active inseason adjustments to GHGs will not be utilized this season. In addition, with annual harvest levels becoming smaller and more difficult to manage within the Juneau Management Area, most Juneau areas will be opened on a staggered 2 to 3-year rotational basis to provide some annual opportunity in the area.

District 1: will open with a GHL of 40,000 pounds of spot shrimp. The waters of Behm Canal north of a line from Escape Point at 55°39.07' N lat, 131°43.04' W long to Point Francis at 55°40.28' N lat, 131°49.06' W long and west of the longitude of Point Whaley at 131°15.84' W long will close at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 21, 2026. The remainder of District 1 is expected to close on or before May 30, 2026.

District 2: will open with a decreased GHL of 20,000 pounds of spot shrimp. The waters of Kasaan Bay and Skowl Arm west of the longitude of Kasaan Point at 132°16.87' W long will be closed. District 2 is expected to close on or before May 26, 2026.

Section 3-A: will open with a decreased GHL of 97,000 pounds of spot shrimp. Hetta Inlet will continue to be closed north of the latitude of Hetta Point at 55°10.40' N lat. Section 3-A is expected to close on or before May 25, 2026.

Sections 3-B/C: will open with a GHL of 10,000 pounds of spot shrimp. Sections 3-B/C is expected to close on or before June 15, 2026.

District 4: will open with a GHL of 20,000 pounds of spot shrimp. District 4 is expected to close on or before July 31, 2026, and may reopen for the fall season.

District 5: will open with a GHL of 12,000 pounds of spot shrimp. District 5 is expected to close on or before July 31, 2026, and may reopen for the fall season.

Sections 6-B/C/D/E: will open with a GHL of 15,000 pounds of spot shrimp. Catcher-processors and catcher-sellers in Sections 6-B/C/D/E will be required to report the previous day's harvest information to the department daily by 5:00 pm, beginning Monday, May 18, 2026. Sections 6-B/C/D/E are expected to close on or before May 31, 2026.

District 7: will open with a GHL of 56,000 pounds of spot shrimp. The waters of Bradfield Canal, Blake Channel and Eastern Passage will remain closed north of a line from the easternmost tip of Wrangell Island at 56°12.24' N lat, 131°55.29' W long to a point on the mainland shore at 56°11.68' N lat, 131°53.41' W long. Catcher-processors and catcher-sellers in District 7 will be required to report the previous day's harvest information to the department daily by 5:00 pm, beginning Monday, May 18, 2026. District 7 is expected to close on or before May 27, 2026.

Sections 8-A/10-C: will open with a GHL of 12,000 pounds of spot shrimp. Sections 8-A/10-C are expected to close on or before July 31, 2026.

Sections 8-B/6-A: will open with a GHL of 15,000 pounds of spot shrimp. Catcher-processors and catcher-sellers in Sections 8-B/6-A will be required to report the previous day's harvest information to the department daily by 5:00 pm, beginning Monday, May 18, 2026. Sections 8-B/6-A are expected to close on or before May 23, 2026.

District 9: will open with a GHL of 6,500 pounds of spot shrimp. District 9 is expected to close on or before May 31, 2026.

Sections 10-A/B: will open with a GHL of 35,000 pounds of spot shrimp. Catcher-processors and catcher-sellers in Sections 10-A/B will be required to report the previous day's harvest information to the department daily by 5:00 pm, beginning Monday, May 18, 2026. Sections 10-A/B are expected to close on or before May 22, 2026.

Sections 11-A/B/C (District 11-Remainder): will be closed.

Section 11-D (District 11-Seymour Canal): will remain closed.

District 12 – Tenakee Inlet (12-T): will remain closed.

District 12 – Remainder (12-R): will remain closed.

Sections 13-A/B: will open with a GHL of 12,600 pounds of spot shrimp. West Crawfish Inlet and Crawfish Inlet will be closed north and east of a line from 56°46.77' N lat, 135°16.83' W long to 56°41.14' N lat, 135°13.75' W long. Sections 13-A/B are expected to close on or before May 31, 2026.

Section 13-C: will remain closed.

District 14: will open with a GHL of 7,500 pounds of spot shrimp. District 14 is expected to close on or before July 31, 2026.

District 15-East: will open with a GHL of 3,500 pounds of coonstripe shrimp in Taiya, Lutak, and Chilkoot Inlets north of the latitude of Battery Point at 59°12.47' N lat. District 15-East is expected to close on or before July 1, 2026.

District 15-Remainder: will open with a GHL of 8,500 pounds of coonstripe shrimp. The remainder of District 15 includes all waters of Chilkat Inlet and the waters of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Ayiklutu Point at 59°04.93' N lat, 135°18.48' W long and north of the latitude of Little Island Light at 58°32.41' N lat. District 15-Remainder is expected to close on or before July 31, 2026.

District 16: will open with a GHL of 12,000 pounds of spot and coonstripe shrimp. Effort is expected to be low based on recent openings in the district.

Vessel Registration, Shrimp Pot Identification Tags, and Catcher–Processor Logbook Program

All vessels shrimp pot fishing must be registered with the department prior to fishing. Permit holders can register at any of the Southeast Alaska area offices Monday through Friday during normal working hours. For this season, permit holders may contact area offices to register or deregister via email. During the 2026/27 season, pot tags will not be required. **Catcher–processor vessels participating in the Southeast Alaska shrimp pot fishery will be required to complete a daily logbook.** Logbooks will be available at Southeast Alaska area offices. Details of the logbook program are described later in this AA.

Reporting Requirements

All commercial shrimp pot fishers are required to notify the department within 2 days of deploying gear and within 2 business days after ceasing fishing in a district, or portion of a district with a distinct GHL.

Catcher–processors (including direct marketers) and catcher–sellers are required to report to the department by **noon, Wednesday** of each week, unless otherwise indicated. Due to the fishery beginning on Friday, the **first week's reports will be due by noon, Wednesday, May 20, 2026.**

In Sections 6-B/C/D/E, District 7, Sections 8-B/6-A, and Sections 10-A/B, catcher–processors and catcher–sellers will be required to **report the previous day's harvest information to the department daily by 5:00 pm, beginning Monday, May 18, 2026.** For questions regarding the daily reporting requirement, please contact the Petersburg office at (907) 772-3801.

At a minimum, **catcher–processors** are required to report **daily** fish ticket information including:

- fishing vessel name;
- permit holder name;
- statistical area(s) fished;
- pots hauled;
- pounds of shrimp by species (whole and/or tails); and
- pounds of each size class of spot shrimp that were sorted for sale.

At a minimum, **catcher–sellers** are required to report fish ticket information including:

- fishing vessel name;
- permit holder name;
- statistical area(s) fished;
- pots hauled; and
- pounds of shrimp by species (whole and/or tails).

Fishers are advised that it would be most efficient to contact the office responsible for each area at the contact information listed below. Reports can also be delivered to the department via email: DFGSEspotshrimpinfo@alaska.gov.

All fishers must complete a fish ticket at the time of landing. It is important to include the statistical area information (example: 107-10, lower Ernest Sound) to identify where the harvest occurred. Multiple statistical areas can be entered on a single fish ticket, and fishers should account for the harvest from each statistical area. A separate fish ticket is required for each district or fishing area that has a GHL (5 AAC 31.143 [c]). Statistical area maps can be found on the ADF&G website at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingCommercialByFishery.statmaps>.

The shrimp fish ticket has a box in the heading to record the number of pot lifts specific to that ticket. To obtain accurate CPUE information, the department requires that information concerning the number of pot lifts is recorded on each fish ticket. The daily number of pots lifted should be written on the top of the fish ticket in the effort box. The effort column in the body of the ticket should be left blank. For example, if 100 pots are fished twice a day, the number of pot lifts should read 200 for that day. All fish tickets must be imprinted with a valid Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) card and completed at the time of delivery. The department also requests that fishers fill in the number of days fished (days gear was in the water) each time they pick their gear.

All shrimp catcher-processors are required to complete a **separate fish ticket for each day fished for each district or portion of a district with a distinct GHL**. Fish tickets must be submitted to the department within 7 days of the closure of a district/area with a distinct GHL. **Shrimp catcher-processors must contact the department before fishing in a new district/area with a distinct GHL.**

All catcher-sellers shall complete a fish ticket or tickets before any shrimp are removed from the vessel indicating the weight of the shrimp on board by species.

Catcher-Processor Logbook Program

Regulations established under 5 AAC 31.141 and 5 AAC 31.143[b][1][E] require all vessels participating in the Southeast Alaska shrimp pot fishery to complete a daily logbook if they process their catch onboard the vessel (catcher-processor vessels). All catcher-processor vessels will be required to keep logbooks regardless of the product type (whole or tails) they process. Logbooks and instructions will be available at all area offices. Catcher-processors will be required to complete a logbook registration form when registering for the fishery, which will include gear information and the size category breakdown used onboard. Daily logbooks will include pounds caught by size category, species, product type, location, date, and corresponding ticket number. Logbooks will be required to be turned in with the corresponding fish tickets when switching between districts or portions of a district with a distinct GHL, no later than 7 days after a closure.

Commercial On the Grounds Sampling

The department samples commercial shrimp harvest to collect data on size and size at sex. Size samples are typically processed on the fishing grounds, and the shrimp are returned to the shrimper, whereas size-at-sex samples (approximately 50 shrimp of all sizes) are retained as the shrimp need to be analyzed at an ADF&G lab. The department has periodically paid for these samples in the past, but this practice will be uniformly discontinued due to the administrative burden and to maintain consistency throughout the region. Fishers are requested by the department to voluntarily donate shrimp for size at sex samples to assist with long-term sustainable management of the fishery. Donated shrimp do not need to be recorded on fish tickets and will not come off the GHL for that area. In many fishing areas, these fishery samples provide the only biological data for that area, making this information crucial for management. Without this information, shrimp areas may be managed more conservatively.

Octopus Bycatch

Regulations established under 5 AAC 38.150 *Octopus Bycatch Management Plan* allow shrimp pot fishers to retain and sell octopus bycatch without the need for a Commissioner's Permit. The regulation allows for retention of octopus up to 35% of the whole weight of shrimp on board and provides for a maximum harvest level of 35,000 pounds of octopus for Registration Area A. The department will close the fishery to further retention of octopus by emergency order if the maximum harvest level is reached. **All octopus sold or retained for personal use must be recorded on a fish ticket.**

Offshore waters are included in Districts 4, 13, and 16; the boundary lines of which are described in 5 AAC 31.105 (d), (m), and (p). The offshore area includes the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the United States. The EEZ extends 200 nautical miles offshore from the defined fish districts (Presidential Proclamation 5030). Fishers who want to fish in offshore waters may do so only if those districts are open. Shrimp harvested in these areas will be part of existing GHs for those districts. Fishers who want to fish in these areas must have a Southeast Alaska commercial shrimp pot fishery CFEC permit card.

General Information

The information contained in this AA is intended as a summary of important regulations. Participants in the Southeast Alaska shrimp pot fishery are reminded to obtain and review a copy of the *2025–2026 Statewide Commercial Fishing Regulations Shrimp, Dungeness Crab, and Miscellaneous Shellfish* booklet.

Fishery Management Contacts

For information on the commercial shrimp pot fishery, contact the Area Management Biologists.

Ketchikan

Fishing Areas: Districts 1, 2, and 4; Section 3-A and Sections 3-B/C
Phone: 225-5195
Contacts: Bo Meredith, Justin Breese, or Whitney Crittenden

Petersburg

Fishing Areas: Districts 5 and 7; Sections 6-B/C/D/E, 8-A/10-C, 8-B/6-A, and 10-A/B
Phone: 772-3801
Contacts: Katie Taylor, Emily Klosterman, or Tom Kowalske

Sitka

Fishing Areas: District 9; Sections 13-A/B and 13-C
Phone: 747-6688
Contacts: Aaron Dupuis or Anthony Walloch

Juneau

Fishing Areas: Districts 12, 14, and 16; Sections 11-A/B/C and 11-D
Phone: 465-4250
Contacts: Scott Forbes or Ray Vinzant

Haines

Fishing Area: District 15
Phone: 766-2830
Contact: Nicole Zeiser

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1C1226.

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

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220