Fish News

Jan. 20, 2012

Western Section of South Peninsula District Tanner Crab Fishery Closes Tonight

According to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, all waters of the Western Section of the South Peninsula District will close to Tanner crab fishing at 5:59 p.m. tonight (Friday, January 20, 2012). Catch reports indicate that the total harvest will approach survey estimates of allowable Tanner crab surplus. Further harvest is not warranted to protect the long-term health of Tanner crab in this area.

All pots within the closed area must be unbaited and doors open at the time of closure. Unbaited pots may be stored in the closed area in waters deeper than 25 fathoms for 72 hours. After 72 hours, all pots remaining in the closed area must be removed from the water or placed in waters shallower than 25 fathoms. Vessel operators are required to deliver crab harvested from the Western Section prior to targeting Tanner crab in the Eastern Section of the South Peninsula District.

2012 Chignik District Tanner Crab Season Delayed Again

The National Weather Service (NWS) 4 a.m. 48-hour marine forecast for Area 155 on January 20th contained gale warnings. So according to the ADF&G, the Chignik Tanner crab final registration and season opening will be delayed again for 24 hours.

If the 48-hour marine weather forecast in Area 155 issued at 4 a.m. on Saturday, January 21st contains a small craft advisory, final registration and the fishery opening will again be delayed for 24 hours.

If the 48-hour marine weather forecast for Area 155 issued Saturday, January 21st does not contain a small craft advisory, final registration will begin at 12:00 noon on January 21st and the fishery will open at 12:00 noon on January 22nd.

Any action to further delay or open the fishery will be announced in a subsequent ADF&G news release by 9 a.m. on Saturday, January 21st. According to the fishery management plan for the Chignik District, season opening delays may continue on a rolling 24-hour basis until 12:00 noon on January 25th, when the season will open regardless of National Weather Service marine weather forecasts.

For additional information, please contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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