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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: April 25, 2024 CONTACT: Tessa Bergmann Region I Shellfish Biologist tessa.bergmann@alaska.gov (907) 772-5236

2024 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB FISHERY SOUTHERN AREA CLOSURE

The commercial golden king crab fishery in the Southern management area will close at **12:00 noon, Saturday, May 4**, **2024**. Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest is expected to reach the 22,000-pound guideline harvest level for the Southern management area as of the closure date. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

The department will continue to monitor fishery performance via fish tickets, logbooks, and port sampling information for the remaining open management area, Lower Chatham Strait. Additional management action may be taken as necessary, and the department will provide as much advance notice as possible for the final management area closure.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days following the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the Southern management area no later than 12:00 noon, May 9, 2024.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C1324.

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

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