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Advisory Announcement

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2025/26 Pribilof District Red and Blue King Crab Seasons Closed
Emergency Order # 4-S-15-25

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and National Marine Fisheries Service have completed analysis of 2025 NMFS trawl survey results for the Pribilof Islands red and blue king crab stocks. Pribilof District red and blue king crab fisheries will remain closed for the 2025/26 season.

The 2025 Pribilof District blue king crab abundance estimates remain below the federal minimum stock size threshold, and the stock has been declared overfished. Total mature biomass also falls below minimum harvest strategy thresholds required for a fishery. Therefore, the Pribilof District blue king crab fishery will remain closed for the 2025/26 season.

Due to uncertainty in 2025 Pribilof District red king crab abundance estimates and high potential for blue king crab bycatch during a directed red king crab fishery, the Pribilof District red king crab fishery will remain closed for the 2025/26 season.

To protect the Pribilof Islands blue king crab stock, waters enclosed by connecting the following coordinates: 58° N, 171° W; 58° N, 168° W; 57° N, 168° W; 56° 30′N, 169° W; 56° 30′ N, 170° W; 57° N, 171° W; 58° N, 171° W are closed to the operation of commercial king and Tanner crab pot gear and commercial groundfish pot gear for Pacific cod taken as bait during commercial IFQ/CDQ crab fisheries. The associated closed ADF&G statistical areas are: 685730, 695730, 705730, 705701, 705703, 695701, 695700, 685700, 695631, 695632, the northeast half of 705630, and the northwest half of 685630. A map of the closed area will be provided at the time of registration.

Additional information will be available during the annual ADF&G/Crab Industry meeting. Meeting details will be announced shortly.

For questions regarding federal Crab Rationalization Program regulations, contact NOAA Fisheries Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228 or the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement in Kodiak at (907) 486-3298 or Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-2061.

For more information contact ADF&G Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239, or ADF&G Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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