

Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission PO Box 110302 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0302 (907) 789-6150 (907 789-6170(f) www.cfec.state.aka.us

## COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Alaska Department of Fish and Game Prince William Sound commercial pot shrimp fishery preseason management meeting

and

Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Public Hearing on draft proposed regulations to limit the Prince William Sound commercial shrimp pot fishery.

The Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (commission) is holding public meeting in Anchorage on **March 26, 2024**, at the Egan Civic and Convention Center located at 555 West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and through web conference. The meeting will occur immediately after the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), Division of Commercial Fisheries Prince William Sound (PWS) commercial shrimp fishery 2024 season management review to start at 5:30pm. The meeting will be held in the Joint Board of Game and Fisheries meeting room located at the Egan Center.

This commission meeting will be held to discuss the development of draft proposed regulations to limit the PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery. Once the draft regulations are finalized, the final proposed regulations will be noticed for further public comment pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62.190).

The Limited Entry Act (the Act) limits the number of commercial fishing permits allowed to operate within designated fisheries in Alaska. The Commission was established in 1973 in order to administer the Act (AS 16.43.010). The stated purpose of the act is to promote the conservation and sustained yield management of Alaska's fishery resources. Additionally, the Act seeks to uphold the economic health and stability of the commercial fishing industry in Alaska.

In December of 2021, the commission was petitioned to limit the PWS commercial shrimp pot fishery. Following a lengthy review involving analysis on historic fisheries information, a public hearing, and a survey of the fleet, the commission voted to propose limiting the fishery in December 2023.

Since that time the commission drafted proposed regulations to establish a maximum number of permits to issue, the participation period years, and an application scoring system. The draft



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regulations are under review by the Department of Law and will be separately noticed and published for public comment when approved. The public will have at minimum 30-days to respond. Following review and response to public comment, the commission will make a final decision on how to limit the fishery.

The commission will use its meeting on March 26 to introduce the draft proposed regulation to meeting participants and seek public comment. While not in its official public comment period, the commission will nonetheless take all public comments through public testimony at the meeting into consideration and include them in its response to the public comments received on the proposed regulations. By March 18, 2024, a tentative agenda will be posted on the commission's website and at its office. This agenda will also be available by request. A copy of the draft proposed regulations are also available on the commission website and upon request.

The public is invited to attend the meeting. The ADF&G season review and CFEC public hearing will be available via a web conference link. Use the following web instructions to participate virtually:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85082315153?pwd=mgmUVkhjt5peYi9erRGthJboyG96p2.1



(Click link or scan QR code to access the Zoom meeting)

If you have any questions, or would like to submit a written public comment, please reach out to CFEC at either <a href="mailto:DFG.CFEC.PublicQuestions@alaska.gov">DFG.CFEC.PublicQuestions@alaska.gov</a> or PO Box 110302, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0302.

If you are a person with a disability who may need accommodation to attend, please contact CFEC at the email or address above by March 21, 2024, to ensure necessary accommodations can be provided.

By the Direction of the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.

/s/ Glenn Haight

Glenn Haight, Chair Mike Porcaro, Commissioner

Date: March 15, 2024