Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: February 23, 2023

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2022/23 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following areas will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, February 27, 2023, and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 28, 2023:

District 11

Southern Lynn Canal, East Mansfield Peninsula, and Auke Bay (Subdistrict 111-50);

District 12

Howard Bay and Couverden Island area (portions of Subdistricts 112-15 and 61 and 114-25).

The following areas will be open with a 2,500-pound area specific trip limit from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 26, Monday, February 27, and Tuesday, February 28, 2023:

District 1

East Behm Canal and Smeaton Bay (Subdistricts 101-51 and 55);

Rudyerd Bay, East Behm Canal, and Walker Cove (Subdistricts 101-51, 60, 71, and 73);

North Behm Canal (Subdistrict 101-80);

District 12

Freshwater Bay and Western Chatham Strait (Subdistricts 112-12, 13, and 50).

There are currently no processors interested in purchasing sea cucumbers from the Sitka management area. The guideline harvest level from this area will be available until the season closes by regulation on March 31, 2023. The department will consider reopening this area if there is expressed interest. Interested divers and processors should contact Area Management staff with plans prior to 12:00 noon on Thursday for a potential fishery the following week.

For a description of the above areas, please refer to the Southeast Alaska commercial sea cucumber fishery announcement dated August 26, 2022, announcing the open areas and their guideline harvest levels (GHL). The next advisory announcement following this opening will be available on **Thursday, March 2, 2023**.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M1223.

2022/23 Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Fishery Statistical Week 8

	Harvest	Remaining			
Area Description	Area(s)	\mathbf{GHL}	to Date	GHL	
Willard and Fillmore Inlets	101-11-002	52,200	50,076	CLOSED	
Revilla Channel and S Clarence Strait	101-21	51,300	41,007	7 CLOSED	
Revilla Channel and Felice Strait	101-23 226,100 221,4		221,460	CLOSED	
George Inlet, Bold Island, and Carroll Inlet	101-40,44,45,46,48	1-40,44,45,46,48 187,300 181,078		CLOSED	
Tongass Narrows	101-47	95,900 91,370		CLOSED	
East Behm Canal and Smeaton Bay	101-51,55	91,800	***	***	
Rudyerd Bay, E Behm, Walker Cove	101-51,60,71,73	53,600	***	***	
North Behm Canal	101-80	73,100	***	***	
Cholmondeley Sound	102-40	227,500	224,883	CLOSED	
Clarence Strait	102-50	111,000	104,988	CLOSED	
Northern Clarence Strait	106-10,20,22,25	170,700	180,318	CLOSED	
Eastern Baranof Island	109-20	45,800	***	***	
Pybus Bay and The Brothers Islands	110-21,22	98,800	94,393	CLOSED	
S Lynn Canal, E Manfield, and Auke Bay	111-50	20,900	***	***	
Freshwater Bay and W Chatham Strait	112-12,13,50	133,400	110,856	22,544	
Howard Bay and Couverden Island	112-15,61;114-25	26,900	***	***	
E Chatham, Wilson, Whitewater & Chaik	112-18,19,80,90	42,700	40,131	CLOSED	
Sitka, Krestof, and Nakwasina Sound	113-40,41,42,43	134,600	135,825	CLOSED	
Hoonah Sound	113-55,56,57,58	118,700	116,908	CLOSED	
Totals		1,962,300	***	***	

^{***} Confidential data

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

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