



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: August 26, 2022

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**2022/23 SOUTHEAST ALASKA COMMERCIAL SEA CUCUMBER FISHERY
ANNOUNCEMENT**

The 2022/23 Southeast Alaska commercial sea cucumber dive fishery will open by emergency order at 8:00 a.m., Monday, October 3, 2022. Subsequent openings will be announced on a weekly basis until individual area's guideline harvest levels (GHLs) have been reached or until March 31, 2023, whichever is earlier. A total of 1,962,300 pounds of sea cucumbers will be available for harvest this season.

The following areas will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday, October 3, and from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 4, 2022:

District 1

Willard and Fillmore Inlets (Subdistrict 101-11-002): will be open for a GHL of **52,200 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters north of the latitude of Male Point at 54°47.57' N lat, with the following restriction:

Edward Passage: all waters will be closed south of a line from 54°52.02' N lat, 130°31.45' W long to 54°51.83' N lat, 130°31.60' W long.

Revillagigedo Channel and Southern Clarence Strait (Subdistrict 101-21): will be open for a GHL of **51,300 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters south of a line from Point White at 54°56.00' N lat, 131°29.83' W long to a point offshore on the District 1 and 2 boundary at 54°54.74' N lat, 131°48.84' W long, and south and west of a line from Duke Point at 54°55.09' N lat, 131°11.73' W long to a point offshore approximately 2.6 nautical miles (nmi) west of Foggy Point Light at 54°55.39' N lat, 131°03.24' W long to a point due south at 54°44.02' N lat, 131°03.24' W long to Lord Rock Light at 54°43.54' N lat, 130°49.22' W long to a point due south on the U.S./Canada border at 54°42.03' N lat, 130°49.22' W long, with the following restriction:

Bee Rocks (Subdistrict 101-22): all waters will be closed east of 131°37.00' W long, south of 54°54.42' N lat, west of 131°30.00' W long, and north of 54°50.00' N lat.

Revillagigedo Channel and Felice Strait (Subdistrict 101-23): will be open for a GHL of **226,100 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters south of a line from the eastern shore of Annette Island at 55°06.78' N lat, 131°21.50' W long to the northwestern side of Mary Island at 55°05.95' N lat, 131°12.95' W long to Mary Island Light at 55°05.94' N lat, 131°10.96' W long to the northern point of Black Island at 55°08.00' N lat, 131°04.80' W long then due east to the mainland shore, north of a line from Duke Point at 54°55.09' N lat, 131°11.73' W long to a point offshore approximately 2.6 nmi west of Foggy Point Light at 54°55.39' N lat, 131°03.24' W long to a point offshore approximately 3.0 nmi northwest of Foggy Point Light at 54°56.86' N lat, 131°03.24' W long to Foggy Point at 54°55.50' N lat, 130°58.60' W long, and east of 131°26.60' W long, with the following restriction:

Boca De Quadra: all waters will be closed east of a line from Quadra Point at 55°05.17' N lat, 130°59.05' W long to Kah Shakes Point at 55°04.22' N lat, 130°58.72' W long.

George Inlet, Bold Island, and Carroll Inlet (Subdistricts 101-40, 44, 45, 46, and 48): will be open for a GHL of **187,300 pounds** of sea cucumbers in all waters of George and Carroll Inlets and in those waters of Revillagigedo Channel north and west of a line from the southwest entrance of Moth Bay at 55°15.67' N lat, 131°20.57' W long to the northernmost tip of Harbor Point on the eastern shore of Annette Island at 55°13.04' N lat, 131°25.17' W long, south of a line from the southeastern shore of Gravina Island at 55°17.65' N lat, 131°37.03' W long to the southwest shore of Tongass Narrows at 55°18.65' N lat, 131°35.13' W long, and east of a line from the southernmost tip of Gravina Point at 55°17.12' N lat, 131°37.19' W long to the northernmost tip of Walden Point on Annette Island at 55°16.46' N lat, 131°35.33' W long.

Tongass Narrows (Subdistrict 101-47): will be open for a GHL of **95,900 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of the west channel north of a line from the southeastern shore of Gravina Island at 55°17.65' N lat, 131°37.03' W long to the southwest shore of Tongass Channel at 55°18.65' N lat, 131°35.13' W long, south of a line from Gravina Island just south of East Clump Light at 55°20.61' N lat, 131°41.30' W long to the northernmost tip of Pennock Island at 55°20.23' N lat, 131°39.45' W long, south of a line from Point Higgins at 55°27.43' N lat, 131°50.03' W long to the northernmost tip of Vallenar Point at 55°25.57' N lat, 131°51.07' W long, and north of a line from Gravina Island north of the airport at 55°21.49' N lat, 131°42.81' W long to Revillagigedo Island at 55°21.60' N lat, 131°42.26' W long, with the following restrictions:

Ward Cove: all waters will be closed east of a line from 55°24.29' N lat, 131°44.98' W long to 55°23.25' N lat, 131°44.30' W long;

East Channel: all waters will be closed north of 55°18.36' N lat.

East Behm Canal and Smeaton Bay (Subdistricts 101-51 and 55): will be open for a GHL of **91,800 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of East Behm Canal, Smeaton Bay, Wilson Arm, and Bakewell Arm north of the latitude of the northernmost tip of Point Nelson at 55°18.03' N lat and south of a line from the southeasternmost tip of Cactus Point at 55°33.29' N lat, 130°56.59' W long to the northernmost tip of Point Louise at 55°32.68' N lat, 130°52.15' W long.

Rudyerd Bay, East Behm Canal, and Walker Cove (Subdistricts 101-51, 60, 71, and 73): will be open for a GHL of **53,600 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters north of a line from the southeasternmost tip of Cactus Point at 55°33.29' N lat, 130°56.59' W long to the northernmost tip of Point Louise at 55°32.68' N lat, 130°52.15' W long and south of a line from 55°48.35' N lat, 131°00.19' W long to 55°47.90' N lat, 131°02.90' W long.

North Behm Canal (Subdistrict 101-80): will be open for a GHL of **73,100 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters north of a line from Nose Point at 55°48.32' N lat, 131°42.53' W long to the northernmost tip of Snail Point at 55°49.47' N lat, 131°46.25' W long and west of 131°22.07' W long.

District 2

Cholmondeley Sound (Subdistrict 102-40): will be open for a GHL of **227,500 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters south and west of a line from the northwestern entrance of Cholmondeley Sound at 55°15.23' N lat, 132°06.82' W long to 2.6 nmi southwest of Chasina Point at 55°14.73' N lat, 132°04.50' W long.

Clarence Strait (Subdistrict 102-50): will be open for a GHL of **111,000 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters adjacent to the eastern shore of Prince of Wales Island south of a line from the northeast side of Kasaan Peninsula at 55°28.38' N lat, 132°08.85' W long to Caamano Point at 55°29.85' N lat, 131°58.21' W long, north of 55°08.25' N lat, south and east of a line from the southwest side of Kasaan Peninsula at 55°27.93' N lat, 132°11.92' W long to near Skowl Point at 55°25.00' N lat, 132°15.50' W long, and north and east of a line from the northwestern entrance of Cholmondeley Sound at 55°15.23' N lat, 132°06.82' W long to 2.6 nmi southwest of Chasina Point in the entrance to Cholmondeley Sound at 55°14.73' N lat, 132°04.50' W long, with the following restriction:

Kasaan Bay: all waters along the Kasaan Peninsula shore will be closed north and west of a line from Grindall Point at 55°27.10' N lat, 132°09.34' W long to a point offshore at 55°26.47' N lat, 132°10.03' W long to a point offshore at 55°27.48' N lat, 132°12.46' W long.

District 6

Northern Clarence Strait (Subdistricts 106-10, 20, 22, and 25): will be open for a GHL of **170,700 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters south and east of a line from Luck Point at 55°59.05' N lat, 132°44.08' W long to Point Stanhope at 56°00.69' N lat, 132°36.47' W long to a point on Etolin Island at 56°03.55' N lat, 132°37.43' W long and north and west of a line from Narrow Point at 55°47.00' N lat, 132°28.23' W long to Ernest Point at 55°51.01' N lat, 132°22.21' W long to a point on Etolin Island at 55°54.79' N lat, 132°21.27' W long.

District 9

Eastern Baranof Island (Subdistrict 109-20): will be open for a GHL of **45,800 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of Section 9-A north of the latitude of Patterson Point at 56°32.36' N lat and south of the latitude of Point Gardner at 57°00.94' N lat, with the following restriction:

Patterson Bay and Deep Cove: all waters will be closed north of 56°32.36' N lat.

District 10

Pybus Bay and The Brothers Islands (Subdistricts 110-21 and 22): will be open for a GHL of **98,800 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters south of the latitude of 57°26.00' N lat, west of the longitude of 133°45.95' W long, and north of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Elliot Island at 57°15.19' N lat, with the following restriction:

Gambier Bay: all waters will be closed south of the latitude of 57°26.00' N lat.

District 11

Southern Lynn Canal, East Mansfield Peninsula, and Auke Bay (Subdistrict 111-50): will be open for a GHL of **20,900 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters south of the latitude of Little Island Light at 58°32.41' N lat, east of a line from Little Island Light at 58°32.41' N lat, 135°02.83' W long to Point Retreat Light at 58°24.69' N lat, 134°57.31' W long, north of a line from a point on Admiralty Island at 58°16.63' N lat, 134°45.62' W long to Outer Point on Douglas Island at 58°18.10' N lat, 134°41.33' W long, and west of a line from the southernmost tip of the Mendenhall Peninsula at 58°20.43' N lat, 134°38.12' W long to Entrance Point at 58°20.01' N lat, 134°36.40' W long.

District 12

Freshwater Bay and Western Chatham Strait (Subdistricts 112-12, 13, and 50): will be open for a GHL of **133,400 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters within 2.0 nmi of the Chichagof Island shoreline south of the latitude of 57°58.60' N lat and north of the latitude of Morris Reef Light at 57°27.76' N lat, with the following restriction:

Tenakee Inlet: all waters will be closed west of a line from East Point at 57°48.33' N lat, 134°56.90' W long to South Passage Point at 57°45.85' N lat, 134°56.32' W long.

Howard Bay and Couverden Island area (portions of Subdistricts 112-15 and 61 and 114-25): will be open for a GHL of **26,900 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters north of the latitude of Rocky Island Light at 58°10.65' N lat, south of 58°19.00' N lat, east of 135°10.00' W long, and west of 135°01.00' W long.

Eastern Chatham Strait, Wilson Cove, Whitewater Bay, and Chaik Bay (Subdistricts 112-18, 19, 80, and 90): will be open for a GHL of **42,700 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters within 1.0 nmi of the Admiralty Island shoreline north of the latitude of Point Gardner at 57°00.94' N lat and south of the latitude of Distant Point at 57°24.05' N lat.

District 13

Sitka Sound, Krestof Sound, and Nakwasina Sound (Subdistricts 113-40, 41, 42, and 43): will be open for a GHL of **134,600 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters of waters of Sitka Sound, Nakwasina Sound, Nakwasina Passage, Krestof Sound, and Olga Strait north and west of a line from Dog Point at 57°10.15' N lat, 135°25.45' W long to Bieli Rocks at 57°05.43'

N lat, 135°30.05' W long to Shoals Point at 57°00.82' N lat, 135°37.89' W long and south of 57°16.00' N lat, with the following restriction:

Neva Strait: all waters will be closed north of the latitude of Neva Point at 57°14.09' N lat.

Hoonah Sound (Subdistricts 113-55, 56, 57, and 58): will be open for a GHL of **118,700 pounds** of sea cucumbers in those waters north and west of a line from Nisemi Point at 57°33.78' N lat, 135°24.70' W long to Broad Island Light at 57°35.15' N lat, 135°23.62' W long to a point on the Chichagof Island shoreline at 57°35.88' N lat, 135°23.05' W long, and north the latitude of Pogibishi Point at 57°30.50' N lat.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1M1722.

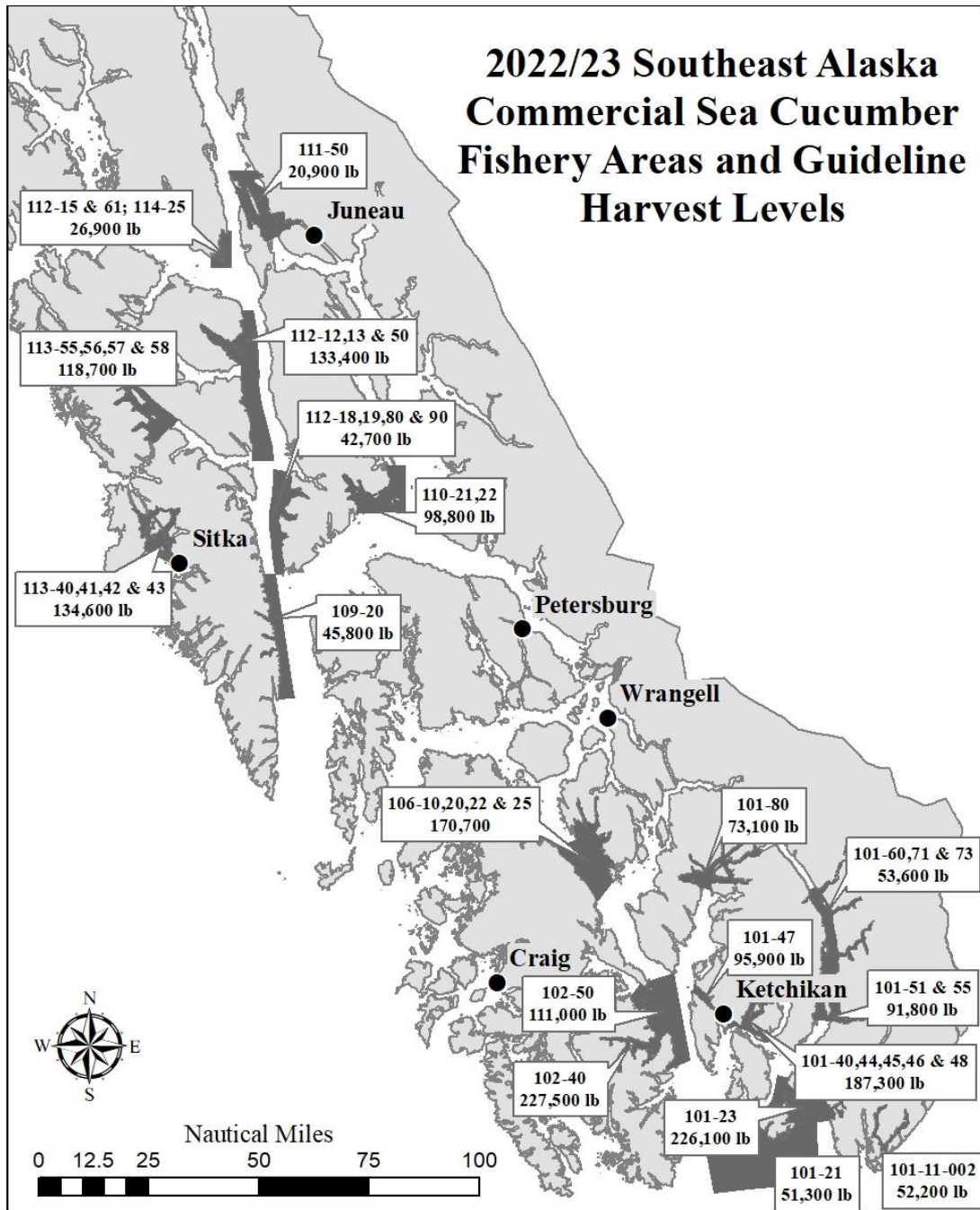


Figure 1. Commercial sea cucumber fishery areas and GHLs for the 2022/23 season.

Note: This chart is for general reference purposes only and does not identify boundaries of open areas. See written descriptions above for detailed descriptions of open areas.

Regulatory Summary

The use of dive gear 14 days prior to a commercial fishery, 14 days after participating in a commercial opening, and between weekly open periods for miscellaneous shellfish is prohibited. A person who uses dive gear to fish in a commercial red sea urchin fishery, commercial geoduck fishery, or mariculture site may fish in the sea cucumber fishery within the 14-day period (5 AAC 38.147).

Each diver participating in the sea cucumber fishery must have a current Southeast Alaska Sea Cucumber Limited Entry Permit which can be obtained from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC). All vessels involved in the sea cucumber fishery need to have a current CFEC vessel license and a Miscellaneous Shellfish vessel registration form issued by ADF&G. Vessel registrations can be obtained at any ADF&G office. All crew members are required to have a valid Commercial Crewmembers License or a limited entry card from another fishery.

In order to provide a refuge for sea cucumbers in deeper waters, use of mixed gases or saturation diving is prohibited. Nitrox gas can be used for diving providing the oxygen concentration is less than 40%. Sea cucumbers may only be hand-picked and any means other than individually collecting sea cucumbers by hand and placing them in bags is prohibited. Sea cucumbers may only be harvested by diving with the aid of: SCUBA; tethered, umbilical surface supplied systems; or a snorkel.

No more than three divers licensed to fish sea cucumbers (hereafter called “permit holders”) may be on board a vessel registered to fish sea cucumbers from 24 hours before, during, and for 24 hours after a fishing period or at any time commercially harvested sea cucumbers are on board. Only two permit holders can make landings from any registered sea cucumber vessel during any fishing period.

No permit holder may land, or have on board, more than 2,000 pounds of eviscerated sea cucumbers during any fishing period established by the department and only one species of miscellaneous shellfish is permitted on board a vessel at a time. Only vessels registered as tenders may possess more than 4,000 pounds of eviscerated sea cucumbers during an established open fishing period.

Commercial sea cucumber fishermen are also advised that all landings to processors, catcher/processors, or tenders must be recorded on fish tickets with the number of minutes of dive time included. A permit holder who is operating their vessel as a tender for sea cucumbers must complete fish tickets as required by 5 AAC 39.130. A fish ticket must be made out for every landing and all fish tickets must be submitted to ADF&G within seven days of landing.

Fishery Contacts

For information on surveys, biomass estimates, and corresponding GHGs contact:

Juneau

Phone: 465-4250

Contacts: Quinn Smith, Max Schoenfeld, or Kyle Hebert

For information on management of the sea cucumber fisheries, contact:

Ketchikan

Districts 1 and 2

Phone: 225-5195

Contacts: Whitney Crittenden, Bo Meredith, or Justin Breese

Petersburg

Districts 6 and 10

Phone: 772-3801

Contacts: Katie Taylor, Paul Salomone, or Tom Kowalske

Sitka

Districts 9 and 13

Phone: 747-6688

Contacts: Jason Jones or Aaron Dupuis

Juneau

Districts 11, 12, and 14

Phone: 465-4250

Contacts: Scott Forbes or Ray Vinzant

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

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220