

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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**BERING SEA SNOW CRAB SEASON EXTENDED**

**EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 4-S-25-12**

Waters of the Bering Sea District west of 171° W longitude will remain open for the snow crab fishery through June 15, 2012. The Bering Sea snow crab season normally closes west of 173° W longitude by regulation on May 31; however, record sea ice significantly reduced available fishing grounds throughout a large portion of the Bering Sea snow crab season. Extensive ice coverage has persisted into mid May resulting in 23 percent of the snow crab total allowable catch unharvested. The 72-hour delivery requirement for snow crab is waived for the remainder of the 2011/12 season.

The Department of Fish and Game will continue to monitor the fishery and adjustments to time or area could occur if situations warrant. The public will be notified of any adjustments by issuance of a subsequent news release.

For further information contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dutch Harbor at (907) 581-1239 or in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.

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