

May 10, 2004

NEWS RELEASE

Statewide Weathervane Scallop Fishery Vessel Permit Application Period

Beginning May 15, 2004, the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission will be holding an application period for vessel entry permits in the statewide weathervane scallop fishery. The application deadline is September 1, 2004.

Only vessel owners whose vessels legally participated in the Alaska weathervane scallop fishery and commercially harvested at least 1,000 pounds (shucked meat) of weathervane scallops in one of the following two qualifying periods: (1) at least one calendar year during the time period 1991 through 1996, and in at least three calendar years during the time period 1997 through 2003; or (2) in at least four calendar years during the time period 1997 through 2003, are eligible to apply for vessel permits in this fishery.

Application forms are available by calling the commission at (907) 789-6160.

Applications must be postmarked by September 1, 2004. This application period is a one time only opportunity to apply for a permanent vessel permit in the statewide weathervane scallop fishery. If applications are not submitted by the September 1, 2004 deadline, there will be no further opportunity to receive a permanent vessel entry permit from the commission.

The commission encourages eligible vessel owners to submit their applications as soon as possible. Anyone needing assistance in completing the application form is urged to contact the commission at (907) 789-6160 and ask for Dorothy or Jackie.