PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

July 28, 2020

Kodiak Advisory

Several sites on Kodiak Island continue to have shellfish with Paralytic Shellfish Toxins (PSTs) above the FDA regulatory limit of 80 µg/100 g. Consuming wild shellfish from these areas may result in an increased risk of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP).

Blue mussel and butter clam samples collected on July 22, 2020 from Mission Beach NE have elevated PSTs above the FDA regulatory limit.

A blue mussel sample collected on July 22, 2020 from Mission Beach SW has elevated PSTs above the FDA regulatory limit.

Blue mussel and butter clam samples collected on July 22, 2020 from South Trident Basin have elevated PSTs above the FDA regulatory limit.

PSP symptoms include tingling in the lips and fingertips, numbing of arms and legs, nausea, difficulty breathing, and even death. Anyone with these symptoms should seek immediate medical care or call 9-1-1. To report PSP cases, contact the Alaska Department of Epidemiology at 907-269-8000, after hours 800-478-0084.

Information about ongoing shellfish advisories from regularly tested sites throughout Southeast Alaska are available on the Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research website (SEATOR.org). Samples are analyzed by The Sitka Tribe of Alaska Environmental Research Lab (STAERL). Contact SEATOR with additional questions at (907)-966-9650 or seator@sitkatribe-nsn.gov.

DISCLAIMER: There is always risk when consuming wild shellfish. PSTs cannot be cooked, cleaned, or frozen out of shellfish. PSP can vary significantly between regions, beaches, and shellfish species. Commercially available shellfish have been tested for PSP and are considered safe for consumption.