



Advisory Announcement

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CONTACT: Grant Hagerman

Region I Commercial Troll Management Biologist

grant.hagerman@alaska.gov

(907) 747-6688

2024 SOUTHEAST ALASKA TROLL CHINOOK SALMON HARVEST ALLOCATION

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that under Chinook salmon management provisions of the 2019–2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty Agreement (treaty), the annual all-gear allowable catch limit for Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK) is 207,150 treaty Chinook salmon (non-Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon). This year's all-gear catch limit includes a 2% reduction that will serve as a buffer to avoid exceeding the all-gear limit and payback provisions within the treaty. The resulting preseason troll treaty harvest allocation for 2024 is **153,000 Chinook salmon**, which is 3,900 fish above the preseason limit available in 2023.

Annual catch limits for the SEAK Chinook salmon fishery are now based on measures of Chinook abundance using the abundance index output from the Pacific Salmon Commission Chinook model. Use of this model for setting the SEAK catch limit is required per decisions made by the Pacific Salmon Commission in January 2024 in accordance with Chapter 3 of the treaty.

The summer troll fishery harvest allocation is calculated by subtracting the sum of the treaty Chinook salmon harvested in winter and spring troll fisheries from the annual troll treaty allocation. The winter fishery is managed to a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 45,000 treaty Chinook salmon for the season and will close March 31 unless the GHL is reached prior to that date.

While there is no explicit guideline harvest level for Chinook salmon harvested in the spring, fisheries are managed to limit the harvest of treaty Chinook salmon; non-Alaska hatchery fish are counted towards the annual treaty harvest limit of Chinook salmon while most of the Alaska hatchery fish are not. Since spring fisheries will be in progress through June 30, preliminary harvest estimates for treaty Chinook salmon in the spring fisheries will not be determined until late June.

The summer fishery will be managed to harvest 70% of the remaining fish on the troll allocation in the first summer Chinook salmon opening in July, with the remainder available for harvest in a second opening, which typically occurs in August. If the remainder of the annual troll allocation is not harvested during that second opening, and if the department determines that the remaining troll allocation is insufficient to allow for a competitive fishery, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reopen the troll fishery to the taking of Chinook salmon during a limited harvest fishery.

An advisory announcement concerning spring troll and terminal harvest area opportunities for 2024 will be available online and in area offices by mid-April, with initial spring areas opening as early as May 1.

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

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