

Legislative Report
Southeast Alaska Subsistence Permitting Procedures

By

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Division of Commercial Fisheries
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
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¹ The Regional Information Report Series was established in 1987 to provide an information access system for all unpublished divisional reports. These reports frequently serve diverse ad hoc informational purposes or archive basic uninterrupted data. To accommodate needs for up-to-date information, reports in this series may contain preliminary data.

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Fish and Game is mandated by regulation to authorize subsistence harvesting of salmon and herring roe-on-kelp, in southeast Alaska, by permit. Legislative intent was approved in 1988 for the department to implement new subsistence permitting procedures for residents of Prince of Wales Island and Haines. The purpose of this report is to document the progress made to implement the legislative intent.

BACKGROUND

The subsistence harvesting of salmon and roe-on-kelp is managed by the terms of issued permits. The permits specify allowable gear, open areas and seasons for individuals. Returned permits are used to tabulate seasonal effort and catches by area. Approximately 3,000 salmon and 400 roe-on-kelp subsistence permits are issued annually in southeast Alaska.

Prior to 1987, subsistence permits were issued for specific activities and time periods. This required individuals to obtain separate permits for each activity and/or renew expired permits. At times the system made it difficult for individuals, particularly in rural areas, to obtain permits. Additionally, the accuracy of the reported catch was questionable as many individuals were believed to be taking what was needed and reporting only the authorized limit.

In 1987, a modification of permit issuing procedures was undertaken for salmon. Seasonal subsistence salmon permits with catch calendars were issued in the Juneau management area. The permits specifies possession limits and were valid for all areas listed. The Juneau experiment appeared successful and a similar system was planned for all portions of southeast Alaska in 1988.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS THROUGH NOVEMBER 1988

New permitting procedures were implemented for salmon subsistence fishery in all portions of southeast Alaska. The new procedures allowed individuals to obtain seasonal permits. Separate permits were required for each management area which provided individuals the opportunity to take salmon in areas historically fished. A copy of the permits for each area is attached. Possession limits were specified for each area. Individuals could obtain multiple possession limits through the season without permit renewal. The permit included a catch calendar for recording fishing activities. The catch calendar is needed to enable tabulation of seasonal fishing activity by area. A computer program was developed to maintain permit records.

The new system was successful in providing an easier mechanism for individuals to obtain permits. It was well received by the public. The permit return rate and harvest information has not been evaluated, as of this date, as permit return was not required until November 10 in most locations. A problem that became apparent was that the system did not enable any inseason evaluation of fishing effort and success by area.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The returned catch calendar information will be entered on the computer program system as the permits are received. This will enable an evaluation of the new system. Based on this evaluation, some modifications of the permitting procedures may be necessary for the 1989 season. The department has submitted a proposal to the Alaska Board of Fisheries for public consideration of the new procedures. This will be considered in meeting scheduled for late February, 1989 in Juneau. Plans are underway to implement a similar permitting system for the subsistence harvesting of roe-on-kelp in time for the coming spring, 1989, harvest period.

KETCHIKAN AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING GUIDELINES¹

Salmon Species	"Possession Limit" ² Individual/Household	Open Dates	Location ³
Sockeye	10/20	June 1 - July 31	Hetta/Eek Deweyville (Sarkar) Warm Chuck Lake Klakas lake
	10/15	June 1 - July 31	Kegan Lake Thorne River
	10/20	July 7 - 31 (8 AM Mon. thru 5 PM Fri.)	Klawock river
	10/15	June 15 - July 15	Karta River Helm Lake
	10/20		Hugh Smith Lake
	5/10		Leask Creek
	10/15	June 1 - July 15	Dolomi Lake
	50/75	June 1 - August 30	McDonald Lake (Yes Bay)
	10/15	June 15 - July 31	ALL OTHER SYSTEMS
Pink	100/150	July 1 - Sept. 30	All Systems
Summer Chum	20/25	July 1 - Aug. 31	All Systems
Fall Chum	20/25	Sept.1 - Oct. 30	All Systems
Other as Specified			
Authorized By: _____			

¹ Any departure from the guidelines listed above may only be done with special permission from the Area Management Biologist in Ketchikan (225-5195). Subsistence users are encouraged to contact the Department prior to fishing as open areas and seasons may be altered by inseason emergency orders.

² "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession if the fish have not been canned, salted, frozen, smoked, dried, or otherwise preserved (5AAC 39.975 (23) DEFINITIONS).

³ Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the Ketchikan road system are closed to subsistence fishing (5AAC 01.747).

PETERSBURG AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING GUIDELINES¹

Salmon Species	"Possession Limit" ² Individual/Household	Open Dates	Location ³
Sockeye	15/25	June 1 - July 31	Shipley Bay
	15/25		Alecks Creek
	15/25		Pillar Bay
	10/10		Salmon Bay
	10/10		Red Bay
Pink	50/100	July 15 - Aug. 31	Cat Creek Point White Creek Chuck River
Fall Chum	25/50	Aug. 15 - Sept. 30	Port Camden
		Sept. 1 - Oct. 31	Security Bay

Other as Specified

Authorized By: _____

¹ Any departure from the guidelines listed above may only be done with special permission from the Area Management Biologist in Petersburg (772-3801). Subsistence users are encouraged to contact the Department prior to fishing as open areas and seasons may be altered by inseason emergency orders.

² "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession if the fish have not been canned, salted, frozen, smoked, dried, or otherwise preserved (5AAC 39.975 (23) DEFINITIONS).

³ Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the Petersburg road system are closed to subsistence fishing (5AAC 01.747).

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
 COMMERCIAL FISHERIES DIVISION
 P.O. BOX 200, WRANGELL, ALASKA 99929
 Contact: Randy Timothy, (907) 874-3822

PERMIT NUMBER _____
 Check if duplicate permit _____

SUBSISTENCE SALMON PERMIT AND HARVEST REPORT, WRANGELL AREA
 (Return To Above Address By September 15)

Number of persons in household _____ Telephone number _____

Name _____
 (Please Print) (First) (Last)

Mailing Address _____

City/Town _____ Zipcode _____

Other members in household authorized to fish this permit:

Name _____ Name _____

Alternate person other than member of household fishing for permit holder because permit holder is incapable of fishing due to physical disability as provided by 5AAC 01.015 (b)(8).

Name _____

Permit conditions:

1. Permit holders must be residents of Alaska (5AAC 01.010.(b)).
2. This permit is valid only for dates and areas listed on the back of this form, from the date of issue to August 31.
3. Permit holder, authorized member of household or authorized alternate and the permit must be present at time of harvest (5AAC 01.015.(b)(3)).
4. Dorsal fins of subsistence salmon must be removed immediately after harvest (5AAC 01.690).
5. Harvest reports must be completed daily prior to leaving the fishing area even if no fish were caught.
6. Unless otherwise specified, beach seines and dipnets are types of subsistence gear allowed for general use in the Wrangell Management Area. Drift gillnets may be used only before August 15 and may not exceed 50 fathoms in length. Set gill nets are illegal.
7. Only one permit will be issued per household.
8. Fishing is prohibited within 300 feet of a dam, fish ladder, weir, culvert, or other artificial obstruction unless otherwise marked (5AAC 01.010 (e)).

I have read and understand the above permit conditions and guidelines.

Permittee Signature _____ (permit not valid until signed) Date _____

Issued by _____
 Department Representative (permit not valid until signed) Date issued _____

Month/Day | Stream Name | Gear Used | Sockeye | Pink | Chum |

_____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

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WRANGELL AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING GUIDELINES¹

Salmon Species	"Possession Limit" ² Individual/Household	Open Dates	Location ³
Sockeye	10/10	June 1 - July 31	Thoms Place Mill Creek Salmon Bay Hatchery Creek Shipley Bay
	15/25		
Summer Chum	25/50	July 1 - Aug. 15 Sept. 1 - Oct. 31	Harding River Security Bay
Pink	50/100	July 15 - Aug. 31	Olive Cove Kuday Bay Chuck River
Other as Specified			

Authorized By: _____

- ¹ Any departure from the guidelines listed above may only be done with special permission from the Area Management Biologist in Wrangell (874-3822). Subsistence users are encouraged to contact the Department prior to fishing as open areas and seasons may be altered by inseason emergency orders.
- ² "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession if the fish have not been canned, salted, frozen, smoked, dried, or otherwise preserved (5AAC 39.975 (23) DEFINITIONS).
- ³ Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the Wrangell road system are closed to subsistence fishing (5AAC 01.747).

SITKA AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING GUIDELINES¹

Salmon Species	Possession ² Limit	Open Dates	Location ³
Sockeye	50	June 1 - Aug. 15	Necker Bay Redfish Bay
Sockeye	25	June 1 - July 31	Hoktaheen Klag Bay Politefski Surge Bay Takanis Bay
Sockeye	10	June 1 - July 31	Falls Lake Ford Arm Gut Bay Lake Anna Lake Eva Leo's Anchorage Redoubt Bay Salmon Lake Sitkoh Bay
Chum and Pink	50	July 15 - Oct. 30	Aleutkina Bay Deep Bay Katlian Bay Nakwasina Sound Salmon Lake

Other as Specified

Authorized By: _____

¹ Any departure from the guidelines listed above may only be done with special permission from the Area Management Biologist in Sitka (747-6688). Subsistence users are encouraged to contact the Department prior to fishing as open areas and seasons may be altered by inseason emergency orders.

² "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession if the fish have not been canned, salted, frozen, smoked, dried, or otherwise preserved (5AAC 39.975 (23) DEFINITIONS).

³ Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the Sitka road system are closed to subsistence fishing (5AAC 01.747).

JUNEAU AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING GUIDELINES¹

Salmon Species	Possession ² Limit	Open Dates	Location	Stream Name ³
Sockeye	25	June 1 - July 31	Chatham Straits Mitchell Bay	Basket Creek Kanalku Creek
Pink and Summer chum	150 50	July 1 - Sept. 30	Stephens Passage Hawk Inlet Chatham Straits Mitchell Bay Hood Bay Chaik Bay Tenakee Inlet Icy Straits Port Frederick Idaho Inlet Port Althorp	Limestone Creek Admiralty Creek Bear Creek Hilda Creek Wheeler Creek Fishery Creek Thayer Creek Favorite Creek Kanalku Creek South Arm, Weir Crk. Chaik River Indian River Kadashan Creek Spasski Creek Homeshore Creek Gartina Creek Game Creek Seagull Creek Bear Creek Neka River Humpback Creek Trail River Head Creek
Fall chum	50	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Chaik Bay Hood Bay Excursion Inlet	Chaik Bay Creek Hood Bay Creek Excursion River
Coho	20	Aug. 1 - Oct. 30	Mitchell Bay	Hasselborg River

Other as Specified _____

Authorized By: _____

¹ Any departure from the guidelines listed above may only be done with special permission from the Area Management Biologist in Juneau (465-4250). Subsistence users are encouraged to contact the Department prior to fishing as open areas and seasons may be altered by inseason emergency orders.

² "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession if the fish have not been canned, salted, frozen, smoked, dried, or otherwise preserved (5AAC 39.975 (23) DEFINITIONS).

³ Salmon streams flowing across or adjacent to the Juneau road system are closed to subsistence fishing (5AAC 01.747).

HAINES AREA SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING GUIDELINES¹

Salmon Species	"Possession Limit" ² Individual/Household	Open Dates	Location
Sockeye	25/50	June 15 - Sept. 30	As Indicated on Front
Combined Pink and Chum	75/100	June 15 - Sept. 30	As Indicated on Front
Chinook and Coho	Allowed only as incidental take in the Chilkat River adjacent to Klukwan		
Other as Specified			
Authorized By: _____			

¹ Any departure from the guidelines listed above may only be done with special permission from the Area Management Biologist in Haines (766-2830). Subsistence users are encouraged to contact the Department prior to fishing as open areas and seasons may be altered by inseason emergency orders.

² "Possession limit" means the maximum number of fish a person may have in their possession if the fish have not been canned, salted, frozen, smoked, dried, or otherwise preserved (5AAC 39.975 (23) DEFINITIONS).