
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street Room 103
Sitka, Alaska 99835
Date: August 2, 2019
Time: 1:30 p.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced the following information concerning the commercial salmon troll fishery:

Coho Salmon Closure

The troll fishery will close to the taking of all salmon at 11:59 p.m., August 4, 2019, except within the enhanced chum salmon and terminal harvest areas noted below. The fishery will be closed for eight days, from August 5–12, 2019, and will reopen to the taking of all salmon at 12:01 a.m., August 13, 2019.

Chinook Salmon Retention Period

The troll fishery will open for the retention of Chinook salmon from 12:01 a.m., August 13, 2019, until closed by emergency order. A total of 57,400 treaty Chinook salmon were harvested by trollers during the first summer opening, leaving an estimated 25,000 Chinook salmon (including a 4% Alaska hatchery component) to harvest during the second opening. The areas of high Chinook salmon abundance will remain closed (5 AAC 29.025). The retention period will be managed in season with no predetermined length and will be closed by emergency order. The department anticipates a relatively short opening, with the harvest target estimated to be taken in **two to four days**. However, actual harvest and catch rates can be affected significantly by the level of effort as well as weather conditions.

Trollers are strongly encouraged to contact the troll fishery managers during the retention period to report catch and effort information via phone (747-6688, voicemail available after hours) or email (grant.hagerman@alaska.gov or rhea.ehresmann@alaska.gov). Fishermen are reminded to listen to the daily U.S. Coast Guard marine information broadcasts and NOAA/National Weather Service weather broadcasts or stay in close contact with the department or processors for fishery updates or closure announcements, as notice of a fishery closure may come less than 24 hours prior to the effective date.

Boundary Area Closure

Under provisions of the 2019–2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty, U.S./Canada boundary waters of Southern Clarence Strait, Dixon Entrance, and west Dall Island, as detailed in the July 25 troll news release, were closed for coho conservation on July 28. Those waters will remain closed through 11:59 p.m., August 12, 2019, as the regional August troll coho conservation closure will supersede the re-opening date of August 7, as previously announced.

Reporting and Landing Requirements

Following the closure of the coho salmon fishery, coho must be offloaded prior to resuming fishing in the chum salmon areas defined below. Fish tickets must be submitted to the department within seven days of landing. A catcher-processor (FAS) that retains frozen coho salmon onboard during the coho closure and

Chinook salmon opening must submit a fish ticket to the department within seven days after offloading Chinook salmon. That ticket must include an estimate of the number and pounds of other salmon species that remain onboard the vessel and a notation that estimated fish have not been offloaded.

Enhanced Chum Salmon Areas

Trollers may target chum salmon during the troll closure, August 5–12, 2019, in the areas described below. Chum, pink, and sockeye salmon may be retained; however, coho and Chinook salmon may not be retained during these fisheries (5 AAC 29.112).

Sitka Sound (113-41): waters of Sitka Sound and the Eastern Channel east of a line from Vitskari Rock Light to Inner Point, south of a line from Inner Point to Black Rock at 57°03.12' N. lat., 135°25.63' W. long., to Signal Island Light at 57°02.78' N. lat., 135°23.58' W. long., and north of a line from Cape Burunof at 56°59.03' N. lat., 135°23.23' W. long., to Kulichkof Rock at 56°59.52' N. lat., 135°26.62' W. long. to Vitskari Rock Light. The waters of Bear Cove will remain closed (Figure 1).

Crawfish Inlet SHA (113-33): waters of Crawfish Inlet east of 135°11.05' W. long. (Figure 2).

Terminal Harvest Areas (THA)

During the closure period, trolling will remain open to all species in the Anita Bay THA (107-35) and the Nakat Inlet THA (101-10). In the Deep Inlet THA (113-38), trolling will be open to retention of all species, according to the rotational schedule announced in the April 12 news release. Chinook and coho salmon harvested in THAs listed above must be offloaded prior to trolling outside THA boundaries during the coho closure.

The Hidden Falls THA will be open to troll retention of all species except Chinook salmon during the closure period, in the area described below:

Hidden Falls THA (112-22): waters within one mile of shore south of 57°15.00' N. lat., north of 57°10.00' N. lat., and west of a line from 57°15.00' N. lat., 134°48.60' W. long., to 57°10.00' N. lat., 134°46.40' W. long. (Figure 3), with the following exception:

Waters north and west of a line from 57°13.17' N. lat., 134°51.86' W. long. to 57°13.08' N. lat., 134°52.02' W. long., and the waters north of a line from 57°13.05' N. lat., 134°52.24' W. long., to 57°13.06' N. lat., 134°52.20' W. long. will remain closed.

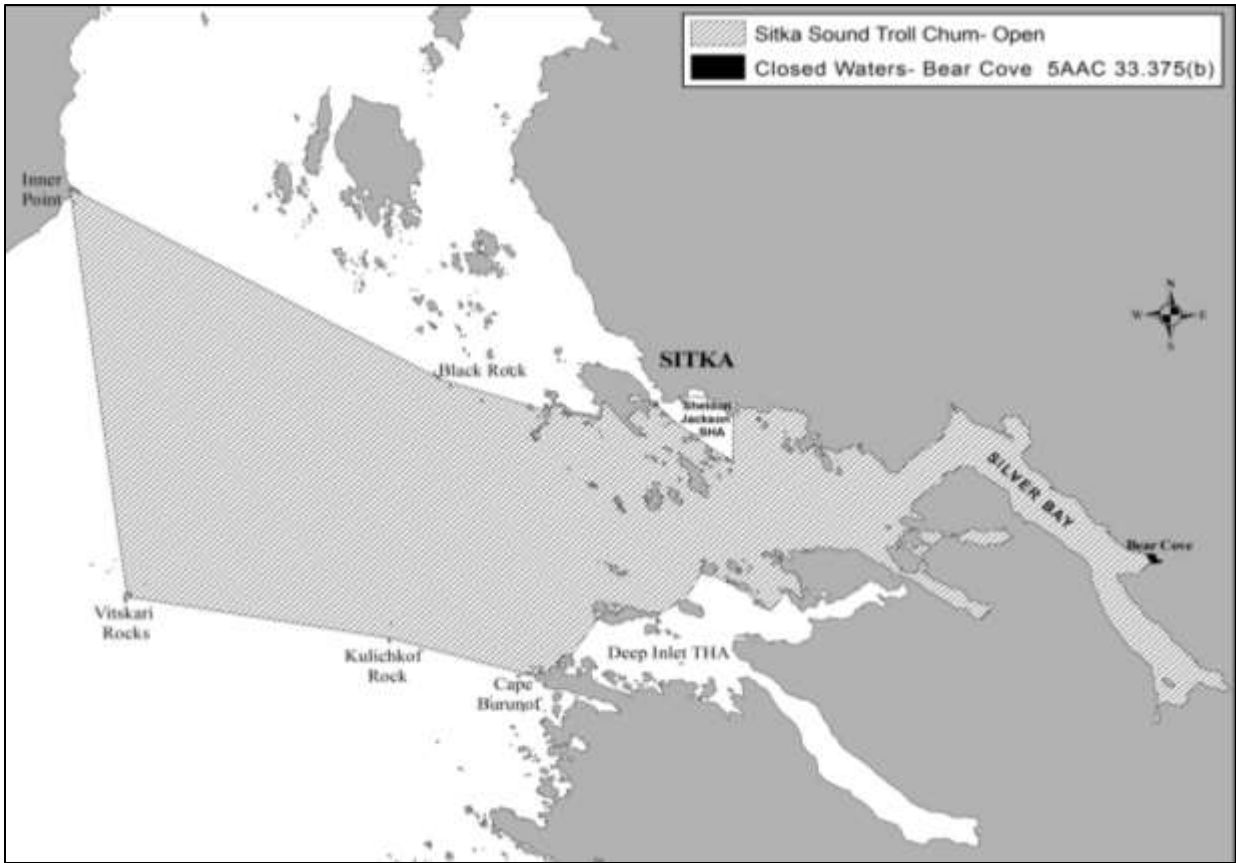


Figure 1.–Waters open to chum trolling in Sitka Sound during summer coho closure.

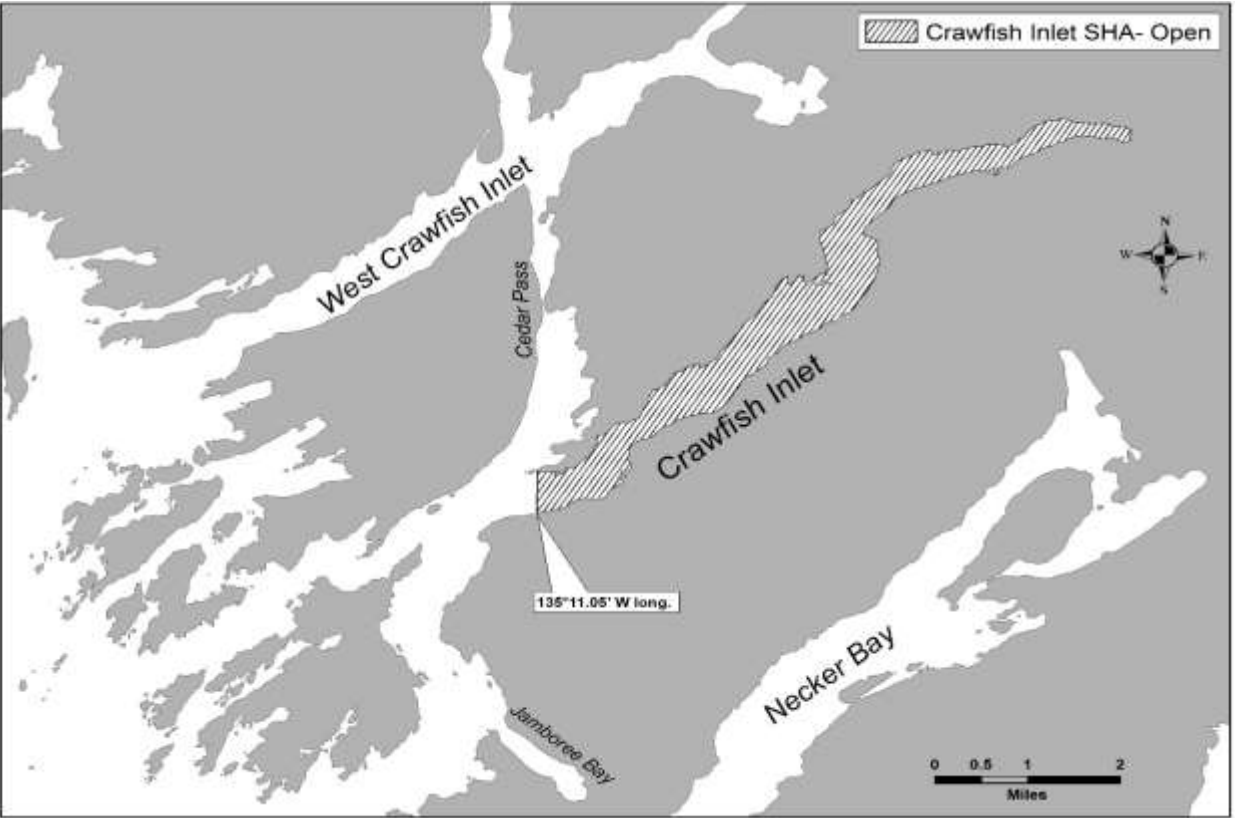


Figure 2.–Waters open to chum trolling in Crawfish Inlet SHA during summer coho closure.

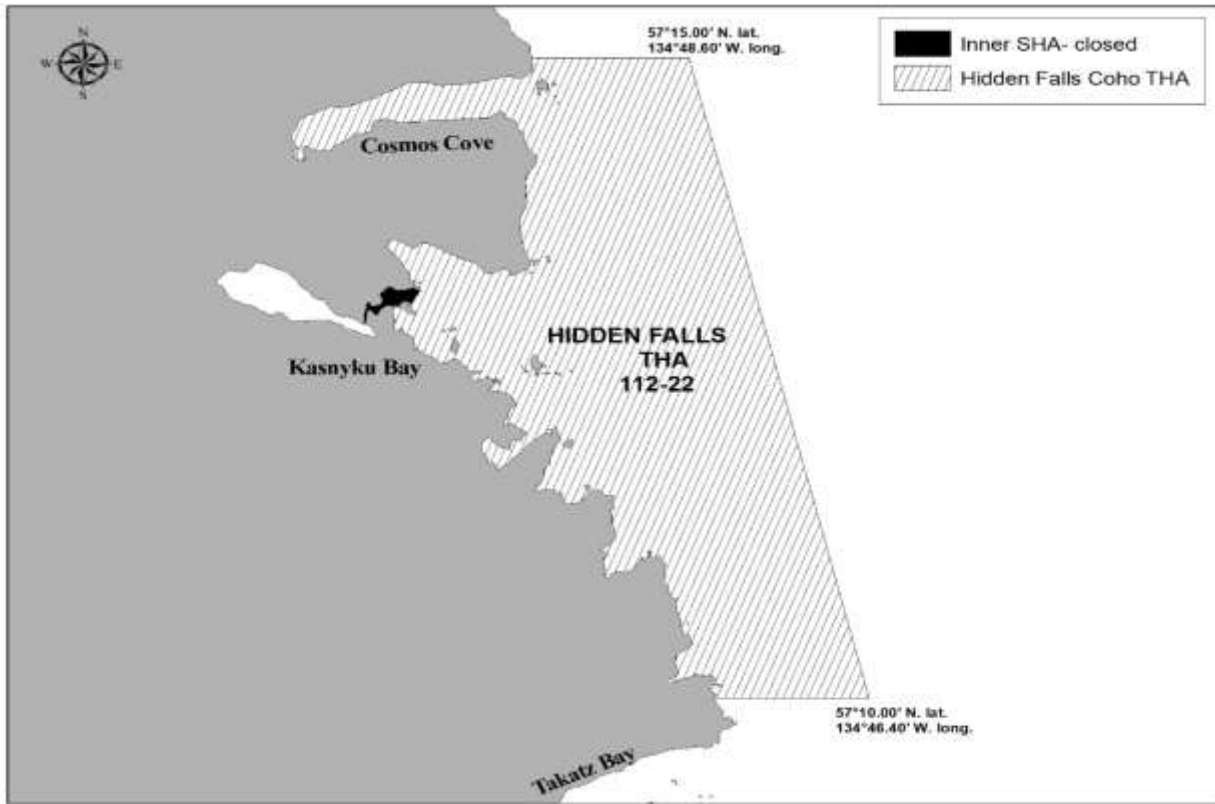


Figure 3.–Waters of Hidden Falls THA open to trolling during summer coho closure.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S4319.

Copies of the 2019 Summer Troll Fishery Management Plan may be obtained from department area offices or from the troll website:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon_managementplans

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

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADFG	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000		
Troll Hotline	225-6870			747-8765			