SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The troll fishery will close to the retention of Chinook salmon at 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 6, 2020. The current target harvest for the first Chinook salmon retention period of 83,900 treaty Chinook salmon is expected to be reached by this time.

All Chinook salmon must be offloaded prior to resuming trolling. All processors and trollers are required to submit fish tickets to the department within seven days of landing. A freezer catcher–processor (FAS) that retains coho salmon onboard after the Chinook salmon fishery closure must submit a fish ticket to the department within seven days after offloading Chinook salmon. The 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.

Trollers are reminded that the waters of frequent high king salmon abundance, described in 5 AAC 29.025 and the attached map, will be closed for the remainder of the season beginning at 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 6.

TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS

The following terminal harvest areas (THAs) will remain open as described, unless closed by emergency order. The Herring Bay THA will remain open to troll gear for retention of all salmon species through August 30 (5 AAC 33.369). The Silver Bay THA will remain open to troll gear for all salmon species through July 30; closed waters of Bear Cove remain in effect (5 AAC 33.375). The Anita Bay THA is open to troll gear for retention of all salmon species through November 10 (5 AAC 33.383). The Port Armstrong SHA is open to troll gear for retention of all salmon species through September 20. The Deep Inlet THA is open to troll gear each Saturday through September 26 for retention of all salmon species (5 AAC 33.376). The Crawfish Inlet, Hidden Falls, Southeast Cove, Thomas Bay, Nakat Inlet, Kendrick Bay, and Neets Bay THAs will close to Chinook salmon retention at 11:59 p.m., Monday, July 6.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S1620.


Under Alaska’s Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska’s Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/
AREAS OF HIGH KING SALMON ABUNDANCE

The following waters are identified as areas of frequent high abundance of king salmon for the purposes of slowing down the king salmon harvest rate during the king salmon retention fishery and reducing the number of king salmon encountered during the king salmon non-retention fishery, as provided in 5AAC 29.02(a):

(1) waters off the west coast of Baranof Island between the latitude of Point Lauder and the latitude of Redfish Cape, to a distance of one mile from the shore;

(2) waters off the Kruzof Island shore from Shoals Point west to Cape Edgecumbe and from Cape Edgecumbe north to Cape Georgiana, to a distance of one mile from the shore;

(3) waters off the west coast of Yakobi Island between the latitude of Yakobi Rock at 58°05.00' N lat and the latitude of Cape Cross at 57°55' N lat, to a distance of one mile from the main shoreline of Yakobi Island;

(4) waters of Palm Bay, Dixon Harbor, Torch Bay, Mark Bay, and Graves Harbor east of a line beginning at the mouth of Kaknuu Creek located approximately one mile northeast of Isy Point at 59°23.88' N lat, 137°04.45' W long to Astrolabe Point, then to a point on the south shore of Dixon Harbor at 58°20' N lat, 136°51.17' W long, then to Veniss Point, then to the westernmost tip of Polki Point; and

(5) the outer banks of the Fairweather Grounds bounded by the following lines:
   (A) on the north by a line extending from 58°46.63' N lat, 138°54.82' W long to 58°24.55' N lat, 139°48.98' W long;
   (B) on the south by a line extending from 58°15.83' N lat, 137°21.80' W long to 57°50.08' N lat, 138°20.03' W long;
   (C) on the shoreward side by a line extending from 58°46.65' N lat, 138°54.82' W long to 58°15.87' N lat, 137°21.80' W long;
   (D) on the seaward side by a line extending from 58°24.55' N lat, 139°48.98' W long to 57°50.08' N lat, 138°20.03' W long.