

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
**Sam Rabung, Director**

Soldotna Office  
43961 K. Beach Rd., Suite B  
Soldotna, AK 99669



**Alaska Department of Fish and Game**  
**Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner**

PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

**Advisory Announcement**  
***For Immediate Release: July 6, 2020***

**CONTACT: Brian Marston**  
**UCI Commercial Fisheries**  
**Area Management Biologist**  
**Main office ph. 907-262-9368**

**UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 12**  
**EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-12-20**

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 12 opens commercial salmon fishing with set gillnets in the Kasilof Section of the Upper Subdistrict within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark on the Kenai Peninsula shoreline from 11:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, 2020. Set gillnets will also be allowed within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark in that portion of the Kenai Section north of the latitude of the Blanchard Line (60° 27.10' N. lat.) and south of the latitude of the ADF&G regulatory marker (60° 30.49' N. lat.) located south of the Kenai River mouth; i.e., the North Kalifornsky Beach statistical area (244-32) from 11:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, 2020.

Under 5AAC 21.359 (e)(3)(F) open periods of the Upper Subdistrict, except for North Kalifornsky Beach Statistical Area (see below), are exempt from gear and time restrictions. For the July 7 fishing period in the Kasilof section, as per 5AAC 21.331 up to 4 set gillnets per permit may be used, each no greater than 35 fathoms in length, and 105 fathoms in aggregate length, and up to 45 meshes in depth. All set gillnets must be 600 feet apart (5 AAC 21.335), and they must be within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark as per this announcement.

Following 5 AAC 21.310 (b) (2) (C) (ii), during the July 7 opening in the North Kalifornsky Beach statistical area, legal gear is restricted to set gillnets that are no greater than 29 meshes in depth and with mesh sizes no greater than four and three quarters inches. Up to 4 set gillnets per permit may be used, each no greater than 35 fathoms in length, and 105 fathoms in aggregate length. No set gillnets greater than 29 meshes in depth may be used in the North Kalifornsky beach statistical area during this opening.

This announcement also opens commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets in the regular (narrow) Kasilof Section of the Upper Subdistrict from 11:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7, 2020.

As of July 5, the Kasilof River sockeye salmon run is 30% complete based on average run timing and projects a final escapement of more than 400,000 fish. The biological escapement goal (BEG) for Kasilof River sockeye salmon is 140,000–320,000 fish. Both Kenai River late-run large king and late-run sockeye salmon runs are too early in the season to project final escapement with a high

degree of accuracy. Therefore, the additional fishing time provided in this announcement is intended to harvest sockeye salmon returning to the Kasilof River while minimizing harvest of Kenai River king and sockeye salmon until the abundance of these stocks can be projected with more certainty.

5 AAC 21.359(e)(3)(B) *Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan* restricts the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to no more than 36 hours per week, with a 36-hour continuous closure per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday. However, 5 AAC 21.359(e)(3)(F) *Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan* identifies fishing periods limited to fishing within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark in the Upper Subdistrict are exempt from hour and gear limitations identified under (e)(3)(A)-(E).

Fish harvested in the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery during this fishing period should be reported in statistical areas 244-21, 244-22, or 244-31 (for a description of these statistical areas, please see UCI Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 5). Fish harvested in the drift gillnet fishery during this fishing period should be reported in statistical areas 244-61. Fish harvested in the North Kalifornsky Beach statistical area should be reported in statistical area 244-32.

### **COVID-19**

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/>