Advisory Announcement  
For Immediate Release: September 7, 2020

SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Southeast Alaska/Yakutat commercial troll fishery will close to the retention of Chinook salmon at 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, September 8, 2020. The combined harvest target of the second troll Chinook salmon retention period and remaining all-gear allowable catch of 63,000 treaty Chinook is expected to be reached by that time.

All Chinook salmon must be offloaded from vessels following the closure and prior to resuming fishing. All processors and trollers are required to submit fish tickets to the department within 7 days of landing. A catcher-processor (FAS) that retains coho salmon onboard after the Chinook closure must submit a fish ticket to the department within seven days after offloading Chinook. 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, will remain closed for the season.

Following the Chinook salmon closure, the Port Armstrong Special Harvest Area (SHA) and the Anita Bay Terminal Harvest Area (THA) will remain open for retention of all salmon species. The Anita Bay THA closes by regulation November 10 and the Port Armstrong SHA is open to troll gear through September 20. All Chinook harvested in a THA/SHA must be offloaded prior to trolling outside the THA/SHA. The Crawfish Inlet, Hidden Falls, and Nakat Inlet THAs will be open for all species except Chinook until September 20, October 10, and November 10, respectively, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

The Mist Cove SHA (109-13) will remain open to troll gear for all salmon species, except Chinook salmon, through 11:59 p.m., September 20. Trollers are advised to avoid cost recovery operations that are ongoing in the SHA. The waters of Mist Cove SHA are described as the waters west of a line from 56°31.70’ N lat, 134°39.97’ W long, to 56°31.27’ N lat, 134°39.85’ W long with the following restriction:

The waters south of a line from 56°31.07’ N lat, 134°40.20’ W long, to 56°31.07’ N lat, 134°40.12’ W long, are closed to troll gear.

The Emergency Orders corresponding with this announcement are 1S5920 and 1E1820.

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/.