



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: May 18, 2021

CONTACT: Nicole Zeiser
Haines Area Management Biologist
nicole.zeiser@alaska.gov
(907) 766-2830

**CHILKAT RIVER AND CHILKAT INLET SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING
CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT**

The following information pertains to the 2021 Chilkat River and Chilkat Inlet subsistence salmon fisheries.

The 2021 Chilkat River Chinook salmon preseason total run forecast is 1,500 large fish, which is below the lower bound of the escapement goal range of 1,750–3,500 fish. The Chilkat River Chinook salmon stock was designated as a stock of management concern at the 2018 BOF meeting after multiple years (2012–2014 and 2016–2018) of failing to achieve escapement. The Alaska Board of Fisheries approved an action plan that outlines specific actions to be taken in the District 15 drift gillnet, troll, sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries to reduce harvest of Chilkat River Chinook salmon.

Salmon fisheries in Lynn Canal and Chilkat Inlet (District 15) are managed under the *Lynn Canal and Chilkat River King Salmon Fishery Management Plan* (5 AAC 33.384), the *Policy for the management of mix stock salmon fisheries*, and the 2018 Chilkat River king salmon action plan (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/RIR.1J.2018.05.pdf>). Because of continued poor marine production of Chilkat River Chinook salmon and a poor forecast for 2021, management actions prescribed in the management and action plans will again be taken in the Chilkat Inlet and the Chilkat River subsistence fisheries. These actions are included in the 2021 Haines subsistence permit conditions and are listed below.

The marine subsistence fishery in Chilkat Inlet will be closed through July 16, 2021. From July 17 through July 23, Chilkat Inlet south of the marker on Letnikof Point at 59°10.42' N lat and north of Glacier Point at 59°06.02' N lat, will be open. Beginning July 24, all waters of Chilkat Inlet north of Glacier Point will be open. The marine subsistence fishery in Lutak and Chilkoot Inlets north of Battery Point will open June 19, 2021.

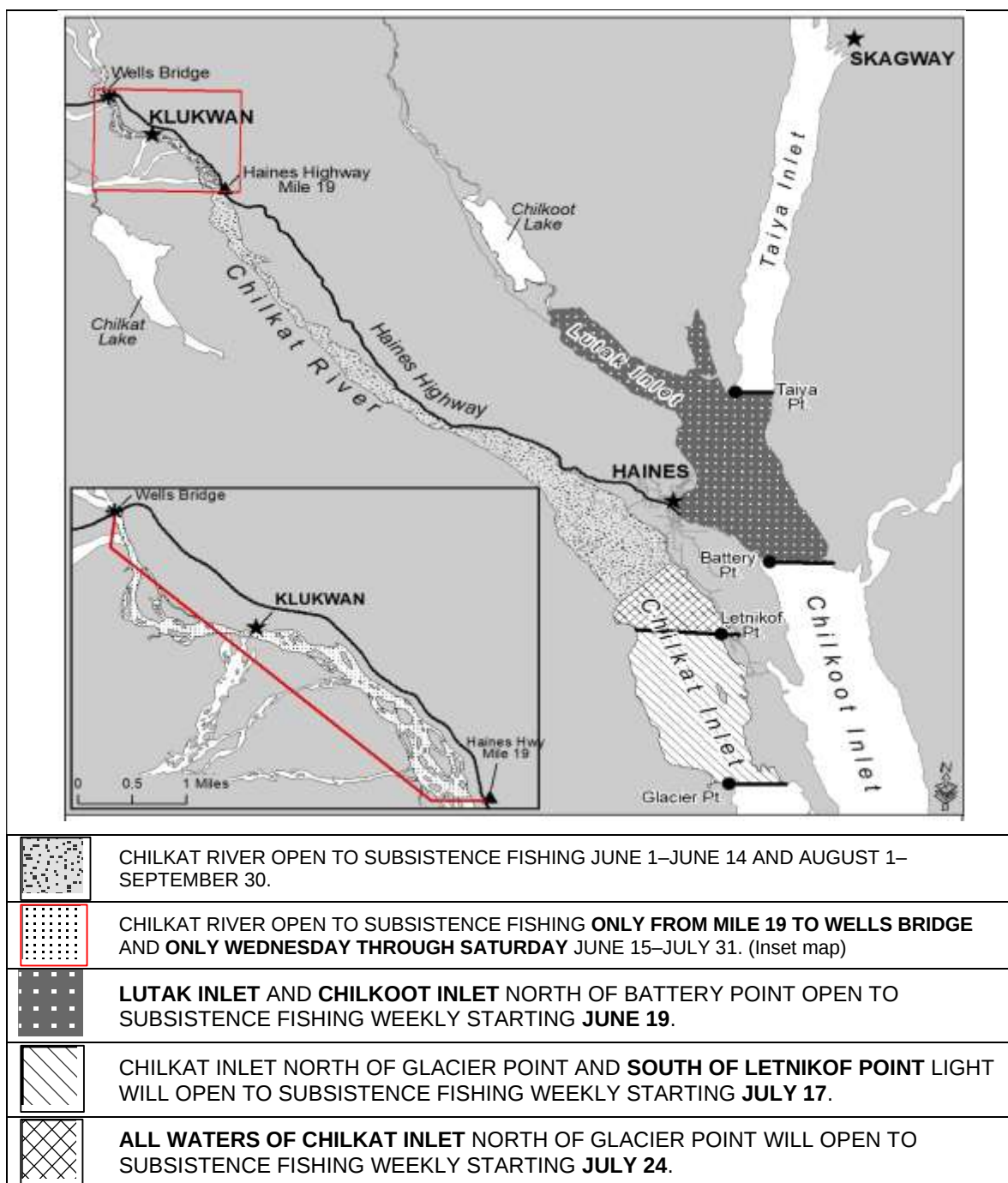
The subsistence fishery in the Chilkat River will be open from June 1 through June 14 from 4-mile Haines Highway to 1 mile upstream of Wells Bridge. **From June 15 through July 31, open area is from 19-mile Haines Highway to Wells Bridge, and weekly open periods are Wednesday through Saturday (4 days per week).**

Due to Chilkat River Chinook salmon stock of concern designation, the department requests **ALL LIVE CHINOOK SALMON CAUGHT BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY** to assist in rebuilding the Chilkat River Chinook salmon run.

The actions described above are intended to reduce harvests of Chilkat River Chinook salmon and allow Chinook salmon to reach spawning areas. Please refer to landmarks shown on the map on the following page identifying areas and times open to subsistence fishing.

Southeast Alaska subsistence and personal use salmon fishing permits are available online at the ADF&G store (www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/). Please report harvest online any time (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest/>) or return harvest reports to the Haines office or mail them to ADF&G at PO Box 330 Haines, AK 99827 by **November 10, 2021**.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S0521.



Advisory announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220