

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

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UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 1 **EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-1-23**

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 1 closes set gillnet fishing for salmon in the Kenai, Kasilof, and East Forelands Sections of the Upper Subdistrict until further notice, effective immediately.

On March 2, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, issued Emergency Order 2-KS-1-11-23 closing the Kenai River drainage to fishing for king salmon effective 12:01 a.m. Saturday, July 1, 2023. In compliance with the *Kenai River Late-Run King Management Plan* which states that if the projected late-run large king salmon escapement is less than 15,000 fish, the department shall close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict.

The department will closely monitor king salmon abundance in the Kenai River and if king salmon abundance out performs the preseason forecasted total run of 13,630 large king salmon and the optimum escapement goal of 15,000–30,000 large fish can be achieved, then the ESSN fisheries may be opened inseason.

In the drift gillnet fishery, waters within two miles of the mean high tide mark on the eastern side of the Upper Subdistrict will be closed until those locations have been opened for fishing with set gillnets (5 AAC 21.310 (3)(A)).