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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: June 9, 2023*

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# SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON PURSE SEINE FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

## District 12

The following area will be open to purse seining from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday, June 18, 2023:

Section 12-A: will be open in the following areas:

**Point Augusta:** will be open within 0.5 nautical miles (nmi) of the Chichagof Island shoreline east of a line from a marker at 58°02.44' N lat, 134°57.50' W long to a point at 58°03.00' N lat, 134°57.85' W long, south of 58°03.00' N lat, and north of the latitude of a regulatory marker at 58°01.63' N lat (located 1.0 nmi south of Point Augusta Light);

**Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area (THA):** will be open within approximately 1.0 nmi of the Baranof Island shoreline in the waters of Chatham Strait south of the latitude of South Point at 57°16.28' N lat, north of 57°06.76' N lat, and west of a line from a point offshore at 57°16.28' N lat, 134°49.94' W long to a point offshore at 57°06.76' N lat, 134°45.37' W long with the following restriction:

**Kasnyku Bay:** will be closed north and west of a line from North Point at 57°13.36' N lat, 134°50.53' W long to the northernmost tip of Round Island at 57°12.68' N lat, 134°50.48' W long to the southernmost tip of Round Island at 57°12.56' N lat, 134°50.51' W long to a point on the Baranof Island shoreline at 57°12.48' N lat, 134°50.98' W long.

The Hidden Falls Hatchery, operated by the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA), expects a run of 806,000 chum salmon. NSRAA needs 230,000 chum salmon for broodstock and as many as 50,000 chum salmon may be taken in an “as needed” test fishery, potentially leaving 526,000 chum salmon available for common property harvest. NSRAA does not intend to implement a tax assessment on any potential common property harvest of chum salmon to satisfy cost recovery needs as provided under AS 16.10.455. Common property purse seine openings in the Hidden Falls THA in 2023 will occur on Sundays and Thursdays beginning Sunday, June 18. Additional openings will be dependent on inseason assessments of run strength. The contraction of the offshore boundary of the Hidden Falls THA to within approximately 1.0 nmi off the Baranof Island shoreline is for conservation of Chinook and pink salmon.

**Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions:** All Chinook salmon harvested in the Carroll Inlet, Neets Bay, Anita Bay, and Hidden Falls THAs may be retained and sold. All Chinook salmon harvested in the Deep Inlet THA must be retained and may be sold. For all other fishing areas, Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length may NOT be retained and Chinook salmon less than 28 inches may be retained but not sold. These restrictions will be in effect until at least July 31, 2023.

When under nonretention of Chinook salmon 28 inches or larger, purse seine fishermen are encouraged to quickly release Chinook salmon in a manner that minimizes mortality. If Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches (large) are retained, the fisherman is in violation and may be issued a citation. Retained large Chinook salmon will be donated,

**and the fisherman may be subject to the cost associated with processing the fish for donation. On the fish ticket, the number and weight of the fish must be recorded and the disposition code "86-Donated" must be used.**

**Fishermen, tenders, and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.**

The Anita Bay and Carroll Inlet THAs opened June 1, the Deep Inlet THA opened for purse seining on June 2, the Neets Bay THA will open June 19, and the Thomas Bay THA will open June 18 as previously announced. For specific open times and area for these THAs, refer to the advisory announcements released in April.

The next seine announcement will be issued on or before **Friday, June 23, 2023**.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S1123.

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

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