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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: June 27, 2023

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON PURSE SEINE FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

District 12

Section 12-A: Point Augusta **will be closed.**

The following area will be open to purse seining from **5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, June 29, 2023:**

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

Hidden Falls Terminal Harvest Area (THA): will be open within approximately 1.0 nautical miles (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. Common property purse seine openings in the Hidden Falls THA in 2023 will occur on Sundays and Thursdays and 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.

Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Harvest Estimates
Statistical Week 26
Preliminary Estimates Compiled June 27, 2023

Point Augusta index area harvest is confidential. Both pink and chum salmon average harvests per boat were above recent-year averages.

Carroll Inlet THA harvest to date: 2,200 Chinook salmon.

Neets Bay THA harvest to date: 1,000 Chinook and 300 chum salmon.

Kendrick Bay THA harvest to date: 600 chum salmon.

Anita Bay THA harvest to date: 500 Chinook salmon.

Hidden Falls THA harvest to date: 20,000 chum salmon.

Deep Inlet THA harvest to date: 470 Chinook and 23,800 chum salmon.

Thomas Bay THA harvest to date: confidential.

The next seine announcement will be issued on or before **Friday, June 30, 2023**.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S2123.

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

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