

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Soldotna Office
43961 K Beach Rd.
Soldotna Ak. 99669



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement
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CONTACT: Colton Lipka
Upper Cook Inlet Area Management Biologist
(907) 262-9368

UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 20
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2-F-H-20-23

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 20 opens commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets on Wednesday July 19, 2023, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Expanded Kasilof, Expanded Kenai, and the Anchor Point sections of the Central District.

As a reminder, drift gillnet fishing activity must remain at least one and one-half miles from the Kenai Peninsula shoreline south of the Kenai River and at least one mile from the Kenai Peninsula shoreline north of the Kenai River during additional and regulatory scheduled commercial fishing periods.

Through July 17, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kasilof River was 384,531 fish and the current on-time projection of escapement is approximately 683,000 sockeye salmon. The biological escapement goal of 140,000–320,000 sockeye salmon has been exceeded. In the Kenai River, the cumulative sockeye salmon sonar estimate is 208,665 sockeye salmon. The mean sockeye salmon run timing into the Kenai River is approximately 20% complete through July 17, projecting an in river run of 1.0 million to 1.7 million sockeye salmon based on average to 3-day late run timings.

Fishermen and processors are reminded of the legal requirement to report all commercially harvested salmon on a fish ticket, whether sold or kept for personal use (home pack), using the correct statistical fishing area.

Fish harvested in the drift gillnet fishery during this commercial fishing period should be reported in statistical area 244-57.