Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Soldotna Office 43961 K Beach Rd. Soldotna Ak. 99669



Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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

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CONTACT: Colton Lipka Area Management Biologist (907) 262-9368

INSEASON ASSESSMENT OF UPPER COOK INLET SOCKEYE SALMON RUN THROUGH JULY 26, 2023

On July 27, 2023, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game estimated the total Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) sockeye salmon run through July 26 to be 3.4 million fish. The department projects the total UCI sockeye salmon run for 2023 to be 4.7 million fish. The estimated Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon stock through July 26 is 1.6 million fish. The department estimates the total Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon run to exceed 2.3 million fish.

The preseason forecast for the Kenai River late run sockeye salmon return was 2.8 million fish. With this inseason assessment, management of the Upper Subdistrict Central District drift gillnet commercial fisheries will remain in the middle tier and will continue to be managed for run strengths between 2.3 million and 4.6 million Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon. Based on this projected run strength, the Kenai River late-run sockeye salmon inriver goal range will between 1.1 to 1.4 million fish.