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## Advisory Announcement

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### **KODIAK COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERY ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENT #11 For Emergency Order #4-FS-K-11-25**

The department estimates that approximately 100,000 sockeye salmon passed upstream of the Ayakulik River weir after it was compromised due to high water levels. Current sockeye salmon escapement is estimated at 323,000 fish, surpassing the early-run escapement goal of 140,000 to 280,000 fish for the Ayakulik River.

Historically, by July 6, 88% of the Ayakulik Chinook (king) salmon escapement has passed the weir. Prior to the start of the 2025 fishing season, the department announced unprecedented restrictions to conserve Ayakulik Chinook salmon. The previously announced trigger to open commercial fishing was a level of sockeye salmon escapement that exceeded the upper end of the escapement goal range. This trigger was chosen based on the high likelihood that the total Ayakulik Chinook salmon run would not be large enough to meet the escapement goal even with no harvest.

In order to harvest surplus sockeye salmon, there will be a **105-hour** commercial salmon fishing period in the **Outer Ayakulik Section** of the **Southwest Kodiak District** from **noon Sunday, July 6 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, July 10**. To continue protecting Ayakulik Chinook salmon, Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater may not be retained by purse seine gear in the commercial fishery and must be released unharmed.

#### **As previously announced:**

There will be a **105-hour** commercial salmon fishing period from **noon Sunday, July 6 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, July 10** in the following areas:

- The **Northwest Kodiak District**;
- The **Northeast Kodiak District**;
- The **Eastside Kodiak District**; and
- The **Afognak District** (except the Duck Bay, Izhut Bay, Inner Kitoi Bay and Outer Kitoi Bay sections remain closed).

There will be a **57-hour** commercial salmon fishing period in the **Mainland District** from **noon Sunday, July 6 to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 8**.

#### **Closed Water Adjustments:**

Closed waters will be **reduced** from **noon Sunday, July 6 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, July 10** at **Saltery Creek** (stream # 259-415) to the stream terminus.

**Concerning the North Shelikof Strait Fishery:**

Short notice, inperiod closures may occur for seine fisheries in the Seaward Zones of the North Shelikof Strait area (**including the Cape Igvak Section**), as designated in the North Shelikof Strait Sockeye Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 18.363). Closure announcements may occur at 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., noon, 2:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., or 8:00 p.m. on VHF channel 6.

**Cost recovery fisheries** have begun in the **Spiridon Bay Special Harvest Area (SHA)** and the **Spiridon Bay SHA** will remain **closed** to **common property fishing**. Fishery opportunities in the Spiridon Bay SHA will be dependent on the ability to meet KRAA cost recovery needs. Cost recovery information can be obtained by calling 486-6559.

The **Foul Bay Special Harvest Area** remains **open until further notice**.

**Closed Water Adjustments:**

Closed waters are **reduced** at **Foul Bay** to the stream terminus at Hidden Lake Creek (stream #251-406).

Fishermen are reminded that in the **Kodiak Area (including the Mainland District)** **until further notice**, **Chinook (king) salmon 28 inches or greater in length may not be retained by purse seine gear** in the commercial fishery and must be returned to the water unharmed.

In response to the recent record-low Chinook salmon escapements in the Karluk River, commercial salmon fishing in the **Inner Karluk** and **Outer Karluk Sections** of the **Southwest Kodiak District**, the **Northwest Kodiak District**, and the **Southwest Afognak Section** of the **Afognak District** **will remain closed** from **June 1** through **July 5**. Commercial salmon fishing prior to **July 5** will resume only after the Karluk River's early-run sockeye salmon escapement goal of 150,000 to 250,000 fish is exceeded.

Other closed waters are as shown on the Kodiak Area Salmon Statistical Chart and detailed in the Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations (5AAC 18.350). Statistical Charts, Harvest Strategies, and Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations are available at the Kodiak Fish and Game office. Recent salmon fishery information may be obtained by calling the Department's 24-hour record-a-phone at 486-4559.