Division of Commercial Fisheries Forrest Bowers, Acting 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

For Immediate Release: July 14, 2025

CONTACT:

Colton Lipka, Area Management Biologist Lucas Stumpf, Assistant Area Management Biologist (907) 262-9368

UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 15 EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2-F-H-16-25

Commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, in State of Alaska waters of the Expanded Kasilof and Expanded Kenai sections only. Record Harvest under statistical code 244-56.

Additionally, commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, in State of Alaska waters of the Expanded Kasilof, Expanded Kenai, and Anchor Point sections only. Record Harvest under statistical code 244-57.

For the regular commercial period on Thursday, July 17, 2025, commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in State of Alaska waters of drift gillnet Area 1, the Expanded Kasilof, the Expanded Kenai, and the Anchor Point sections. Additionally, commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be extended from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 17, 2025 in State of Alaska waters of the Expanded Kasilof and Expanded Kenai sections only. Record harvest under statistical code 244-57 if you fish in the Expanded Corridor and AP section. Record harvest under statistical code 244-70 if you fish primarily in the Area 1 triangle.

As a reminder, per the *Kenai River Late-run King Salmon Stock of Concern Management plan*, drift gillnet fishing is prohibited within 2-miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline.

Through July 13, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kasilof River was 623,450 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 1.4 million sockeye salmon which exceeds the biological escapement goal of 140,000–320,000 sockeye salmon. Through July 13, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kenai River was 290,454 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 2.6 million sockeye salmon which exceeds the inriver run goal of 1.1-1.4 million sockeye salmon. Fishing in the above-described waters is warranted to target sockeye salmon returning to the Kasilof and Kenai rivers.

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, using the correct statistical fishing area or areas (5 AAC 39.130(c)(7)).

Please check with the appropriate federal agency regarding fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

General Information for <u>all</u> UCI commercial fisheries and specifics about harvest levels, required permits, reporting requirements, or the registration processes, can be obtained by calling the Soldotna ADF&G staff at 907-262-9368, and also by viewing the ADF&G UCI commercial fisheries web site. https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareauci.main