

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: May 22, 2026

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UCI COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 5 2026 SMELT (HOOLIGAN) COMMERCIAL FISHERY EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2-F-H-06-26

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 5 closes the Cook Inlet commercial smelt fishery for the 2026 season at 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Saturday, May 23, 2026.

5 AAC 21.505 *Cook Inlet Smelt Fishery Management Plan* states that smelt may be taken only under the provisions of a commissioner's permit and no more than 100 tons of smelt may be harvested annually. Total harvests as of May 22, 2026, indicate that the UCI commercial smelt fishery will reach the 100-ton limit. Therefore, in compliance with the smelt fishery management plan, the commercial smelt fishery will be closed for the 2026 season.

General Information for all 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>