



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 17, 2026

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UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 17
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2-F-H-18-26

Commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2026, in State of Alaska waters of Area 1, the Expanded Kasilof, Expanded Kenai, and Anchor Point sections only, in the Central District. Record harvest under statistical code 244-70 for Area 1 or 244-57 for the corridor sections.

Additionally, 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 16, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kasilof River was 451,947 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 1.0 million sockeye salmon which exceeds the biological escapement goal of 140,000–320,000 sockeye salmon.

Through July 16, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kenai River was 139,400 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 1.1 million sockeye salmon which is within 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 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>