ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 3 EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-03-14

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 3 modifies fishing time from 6 hours per day to 12 hours per day, or from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. for the remaining two fishing periods scheduled for the directed king salmon commercial set gillnet fishery in the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet. The fishing periods affected by this announcement occur on Monday, June 16, 2014 and Monday, June 23, 2014.

Commercial salmon fishing remains closed for the 2014 directed king salmon fishery in that portion of the General Subdistrict of the Northern District from a point at the wood chip dock located approximately three miles south of Tyonek at 61° 02.77' N. lat., 151° 10.04' W. long., to the Susitna River (Figure 1). This area remains closed to reduce the harvest of king salmon returning to Northern District drainages.

The Division of Sport Fisheries released an emergency order on Friday, June 13, 2014, allowing the use of bait and multiple hooks while sport fishing in the Deshka River, beginning at 6:00 a.m., Saturday, June 14, 2014. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG) on the Deshka River is 13,000–28,000 king salmon. Through 9 a.m., June 13, cumulative king salmon passage through the weir located at river mile 7 was 10,016 fish. On average, approximately 25% of the spawning escapement has passed the weir by this date. Although there are indications that run timing may be earlier than average, and a below average run is still expected, early run timing models indicate the SEG will still be achieved after incorporating an expected increase in king salmon harvest from both commercial and sport fisheries.

All areas in the Northern District, including that area from the wood chip dock to the Susitna River, will return to a normal fishing schedule of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, beginning on Thursday, June 26, 2014.



Figure 1. Map of the area closed to commercial fishing during the 2014 Northern District set gillnet directed king salmon fishery.