
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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SOUTHEAST ALASKA SPRING TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following information concerning the commercial spring troll fishery:

The spring troll areas and Terminal Harvest Areas (THA) listed below will remain open until further notice:

Ernest Sound (107-10)	Sitka Sound (113-41)	Port Armstrong THA (109-11)
Frederick Sound (110-31)	Neets Bay THA (101-95)	Hidden Falls THA (112-22)
Chatham Strait (112-12)	Anita Bay THA (107-35)	Bear Cove SHA (113-35)

The spring troll areas listed below will open at 12:01 a.m. of the opening date and close at 11:59 p.m. of the closing date. Openings may be extended if the Alaska hatchery contributions are high.

SCHEDULE OF OPENINGS

Ketchikan Area

West Rock (101-21)	June 18–20
Ketchikan Area (101-29)*	June 14–18
Mountain Point (101-45)*	June 16–20
Stone Rock Bay (102-09)	June 16–19
West Clarence Strait (102-50)*	June 17–21
Kendrick Bay (102-10)	June 18–21

*see “Actions to Conserve Unuk River Chinook”, pg. 3 of this news release

Wrangell/Prince of Wales area

Bucareli Bay (103-50)	June 16–18
South Sumner Strait (105-41)	June 16–17
North Sumner Strait (106-43)	June 16–17
Steamer Point (106-30)	June 16–18
Snow Pass (106-41)	June 18–20
Chichagof Pass (108-10)	June 14–16
Craig Point (108-40)	June 14–16

Chatham Strait area

Little Port Walter (109-10)	June 18
Tebenkof Bay (109-62)	June 17
Northern Chatham Strait (112-16)	June 16–19

Sitka area

Western Channel (113-01)	June 17
Redoubt Bay (113-30)	June 16–17
Biorka Island (113-31)	June 16
Goddard (113-32)	June 16–17
Salisbury Sound (113-62)	June 16–19

Pelican area

Lisianski Inlet (113-95)	June 16–18
Port Althorp (114-50)	June 15–18
Stag Bay (113-97)	June 19–21

Icy Strait/Upper Chatham areas will open June 14–20

Hawk Inlet (112-65)	Cross Sound (114-21)	South Passage (114-23)
Homeshore (114-25)	Point Sophia (114-27)	

Yakutat area

Yakutat Bay (183-10)	June 19
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FREDERICK SOUND AREA (110-31)

As of June 1, the Frederick Sound area was extended to include those waters of District 10 that are north and west of a line from Wood Point (56°59.75' N. lat., 132°56.95' W. long.) to Beacon Point, excluding waters of Farragut Bay north and east of a line from Bay Point to Grand Point and also excluding those waters of Thomas Bay that are north and east of a line from Point Vandeput (57°01.25' N. lat., 133°00.00' W. long.) to Wood Point.

KENDRICK BAY AREA (102-10)

Beginning June 15, the waters of the Kendrick Bay THA are closed to troll gear, and are excluded from the Kendrick Bay spring troll area [5 AAC 33.377(b)]. The Kendrick Bay THA consists of the waters of Kendrick Bay west of 131°59.00' W. long., and the waters of McLean Arm west of 131°57.80' W. long.

DEEP INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA (113-38)

The waters of the Deep Inlet THA are being managed on a rotational gear fishing schedule. From June 1 through June 21, the waters of Deep Inlet west of 135°20.75' W. long., will be included in the Sitka Sound spring troll area. On June 22, all waters of the Deep Inlet THA will be excluded from the Sitka Sound spring troll area for the remainder of season. A description of THA boundaries and fishing schedules can be found in the Deep Inlet news release issued on March 12. The Deep Inlet THA will be open to troll gear each Saturday from June 1 through July 26.

TERMINAL HARVEST AREA SIZE RESTRICTIONS

From June 1 through June 30, Chinook salmon 26 inches and greater may be retained by commercial trollers fishing in the following Terminal Harvest Areas (THA): Neets Bay, Anita Bay, Port Armstrong, Hidden Falls, and Deep Inlet. For further information please refer to the THA troll fishery news release issued May 29.

In the **Bear Cove SHA (113-35)**, from June 5 through June 30, the waters of Bear Cove and Silver Bay east of a line from 57°00.63' N. lat., 135°09.80' W. long., to 57°00.75' N. lat., 135°10.58' W. long., to 57°01.07' N. lat., 135°09.93' W. long., will be open to retention of Chinook salmon 26 inches and greater. Chinook salmon less than 28 inches in length must be offloaded prior to fishing in any other troll fishery area where the size limit is 28 inches or greater. **Statistical area 113-35 should be recorded on fish tickets** for harvest within the Bear Cove SHA.

Trollers are reminded that within the Bear Cove SHA, **waters east of a line from a point on the south shore at 57°00.77' N. lat., 135°09.08' W. long., to the north shore at 57°00.94' N. lat., 135°09.23' W. long., will remain closed to trolling.**

NEETS BAY TERMINAL HARVEST AREA (101-95)

In Neets Bay, the waters east of the longitude of Chin Point to the longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island became part of the expanded Neets Bay THA on June 8.

ACTIONS TO CONSERVE UNUK RIVER CHINOOK

The Chinook salmon escapement to the Unuk River was well below the escapement goal range in 2012 and 2013, and escapement is forecast to be low again in 2014. Coded-wire tag recoveries during the past five years indicate that Unuk Chinook harvest has occurred mainly during June and in some spring troll fishing areas more than others. Efforts to reduce troll fishery impacts on Unuk Chinook will focus on those spring areas closest to the Unuk River, as well as migration corridors. In response, several spring troll areas have been closed or reduced in size and/or fishing time. Please refer to the 2014 Spring Troll Management Plan for further details.

SALMON RETENTION BY SPECIES AND ADIPOSE FIN-CLIPPED SALMON

Retention of coho salmon began June 1. Chum, pink, and sockeye salmon may be retained year-round. The heads of all adipose fin-clipped salmon must remain attached to the fish until the fish are sold [5 AAC 29.140 (b)]. Permit holders who freeze their catch onboard are asked to contact the department prior to fishing so that sampling and fish ticket issues can be discussed. An **Exemption Permit** is required to allow the removal of heads from Chinook salmon harvested in the spring areas prior to delivery.

CATCH REPORTING

It is extremely important to keep fish caught in different fishery areas separated so that accurate dockside sampling can occur by department personnel. In order to maximize the harvest of Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon in the spring fisheries, catches must be reported accurately. If more than one area or fishery is fished, or fish are kept for more than one period, each troller and tender is required to keep and report these catches separately on separate fish tickets (5 AAC 29.130). The fishery name and the fishery area number must be reported on all fish tickets, as well as dates that the fishing trip started and ended. All fish legally retained in the commercial salmon troll fishery, whether for sale or retained for **personal use** (condition code 95), **must be recorded on a fish ticket.**

GROUND FISH BYCATCH

Fishermen are reminded that the season for lingcod bycatch opened in the salmon troll fishery on May 16. The lingcod season will remain open through November 30, or until lingcod area allocations are taken, whichever occurs first. All lingcod retained must measure at least 27 inches from tip of snout to the tip of the tail, or 20.5 inches from the front of the dorsal fin to the tip of the tail. Salmon trollers may not retain lingcod in the waters of Sitka Sound as defined in 5 AAC 28.150 (a). For additional information on groundfish bycatch in the salmon troll fishery, refer to the *2014 Spring Troll Fishery Management Plan*, the department news release issued January 2, "*Groundfish Bycatch in the 2014 Commercial Troll Fishery*", or contact the groundfish staff in Sitka at 907-747-6688.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is 1S1214.

The 2014 Spring Troll Management Plan, which includes area maps, is available online and in area offices.

The spring troll fishery webpage can be found at:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon_trollspring

2014 Spring Chinook Harvest and Effort				
Spring Troll Area	<i>Week of June 1-7 (sw 23)</i>		<i>Cumulative</i>	
	Landings	Harvest	Landings	Harvest
West Rock (101-21)	8	244	10	246
Ketchikan (101-29)	9	171	51	541
Mountain Point (101-45)	20	183	49	397
Stone Rock Bay (102-09)	5	123	9	146
Kendrick Bay (102-10)	8	228	15	306
West Clarence Strait (102-50)	7	70	21	288
Bucareli Bay (103-50)	5	54	26	147
Sumner Strait (105-41)	11	85	60	476
Steamer Point (106-30)	4	81	10	172
Snow Pass (106-41)	*	*	5	94
North Sumner Strait (106-43)			*	*
Ernest Sound (107-10)	7	88	35	486
Chichagof Pass (108-10)	21	271	74	749
Craig Point (108-40)	*	*	*	*
Little Port Walter (109-10)**	13	111	95	1,106
Tebenkof Bay (109-62)**	13	221	62	902
Frederick Sound (110-31)	6	11	23	176
Chatham Strait (112-12)**	36	792	109	2,228
Hawk Inlet (112-65)			5	23
Western Channel (113-01)	9	52	66	594
Redoubt Bay (113-30)	18	172	56	615
Biorka Island (113-31)	26	383	40	544
Goddard (113-32)	13	273	32	564
Sitka Sound (113-41)	119	1,345	356	4,020
Salisbury Sound (113-62)	9	156	36	634
Lisianski Inlet (113-95)	*	*	22	307
Stag Bay (113-97)	*	*	*	*
Cross Sound (114-21)			4	25
South Passage (114-23)			12	43
Homeshore (114-25)			9	37
Point Sophia (114-27)			5	22
Port Althorp (114-50)	11	53	33	216
Yakutat Bay (183-10)	5	13	62	328
Totals for Region	389	5,252	1,398	16,475
*Data is confidential when harvest for fewer than 3 permits is reported.				
**Weekly landing and harvest data delayed, tender deliveries still pending.				

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983		747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	
Troll Hotline	225-6870	772-3700		747-8765	465-8765			