ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #18

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Purse seine: The following areas will open to commercial purse seine harvest on a schedule of Monday, Wednesday and Friday 16-hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM beginning on Monday, August 4,

-the Tutka Bay Subdistrict north of the latitude of Quarry Point (59° 30.23'N. lat.),

-the China Poot Section, excluding the China Poot SHA,

-the Neptune Bay Section, excluding the Hazel Lake SHA,

-the Halibut Cove Subdistrict, excluding the Halibut Cove SHA,

-the Seldovia Subdistrict, and

-waters of the Port Graham Subdistrict south and east of Dangerous Cape, excluding the Port Graham SHA. The Closed Waters line described in 5 AAC 21.350(d)(7) has been moved southwards to 59° 19.90'N. lat. Waters south of this line remain closed.

Set gillnet: All waters of the Southern District listed in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1) are open to commercial set gillnet harvest on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week, from 6:00 a.m. Monday until 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, and from 6:00 a.m. Thursday until 6:00 a.m. Saturday until further notice. Set gillnet harvest to date is shown below,

 Table 1.-Southern District set gillnet commercial salmon harvest: this year, last year, and previous 10-year harvest.

Period			Chinook			Sockeye			Coho			Pink			Chum		
			10-yr	2013	2014	10-yr	2013	2014	10-yr	2013	2014	10-yr	2013	2014	10-yr	2013	2014
	Dates	Del.	avg.	harv.	harv.	avg.	harv.	harv.	avg.	harv.	harv.	avg.	harv.	harv.	avg.	harv.	harv.
1	6/2 - 6/4	7	141	20	19	1,154	1,777	2,184	0	0	0	1	0	0	21	29	27
2	6/5 - 6/7	6	109	36	21	2,383	3,485	904	2	0	0	1	0	0	49	49	26
3	6/9 - 6/11	7	79	34	44	1,527	3,449	2,063	31	0	0	134	0	0	68	78	87
4	6/12 - 6/14	6	72	29	29	1,954	2,309	723	10	0	0	62	0	0	146	99	54
5	6/16 - 6/18	6	45	18	27	833	1,544	1,472	0	0	0	4	0	0	63	59	115
6	6/19 - 6/21	10	56	14	47	1,800	2,358	2,588	11	10	0	80	3	0	110	63	385
7	6/23 - 6/25	12	61	17	30	1,491	1,835	2,544	16	0	0	22	1	0	149	85	433
8	6/26 - 6/28	11	32	25	31	2,474	3,246	1,836	56	9	0	335	2	0	307	165	587
9	6/30 - 7/2	11	38	12	14	1,727	2,012	2,117	69	23	0	171	153	0	306	102	729
10	7/3 - 7/5	12	27	15	19	3,039	3,082	3,140	138	55	2	226	4	3	468	228	757
11	7/7 - 7/9	12	17	6	9	2,670	4,036	2,664	197	537	0	224	12	241	211	236	560
12	7/10 - 7/12	10	21	1	2	3,217	3,134	1,533	294	515	4	576	3	0	353	304	450
13	7/14 - 7/16	9	8	3	1	2,774	3,109	2,422	273	1,042	60	706	355	41	217	470	122
14	7/17 - 7/19	14	10	3	1	2,818	2,335	3,032	484	1,127	60	2,121	290	51	363	412	581
15	7/21 - 7/23	8	6	1	1	1,272	286	1,407	83	20	109	902	752	448	188	297	219
16	7/24 - 7/26	5	11	conf*	0	1,042	conf*	649	108	conf*	26	943	conf*	0	254	conf*	113
17	7/28 - 7/30	3	4	conf*	0	779	conf*	81	114	conf*	17	1,049	conf*	98	128	conf*	1
18	7/31 - 8/2	na	7	conf*	na	574	conf*	na	111	conf*	na	876	conf*	na	120	conf*	na

period 1-17 sum 737 234 295 32,954 38,175 31,359 1,886 3,405 278 7,557 1,712 882 3,401 2,685 5,246 conf*- confidential, fewer than 3 permit holders reporting deliveries during this period.

<u>OUTER DISTRICT</u>: The following areas will open on a schedule of Monday, Wednesday and Friday 16-hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM beginning on Monday, August 4,

-waters of the Dogfish Bay Subdistrict west of 151° 49.368' W. long.,

-the Windy Bay, and Rocky Bay subdistricts.

The Port Dick Subdistrict is CLOSED until further notice. In addition, waters of the East Nuka Subdistrict remain open for daily 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM, 16-hour fishing periods. Closed waters as described in 5AAC 21.350(f)(12) and (13) are suspended. Fishing is permitted up to the freshwater of Desire Creek and Delight Creek. The freshwater lagoon at Delight Creek remains CLOSED to commercial harvest. Significant numbers of sockeye salmon have been observed in saltwater in Lower McCarty Fjord.

<u>KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT</u>: Waters of the Kirschner Lake Special Harvest Area (SHA) south of 59° 23.8' N. latitude remain open to commercial common property purse seine salmon harvest. The intent of this is to increase access to pink salmon returning to Bruin Bay. Since Friday, 7/25 a total of 40,000 pink salmon have been harvested from this area.

In addition, closed waters restrictions for the Bruin River up to the upstream boundary of the "Pothole" are rescinded. Commercial fishing is permitted in the Bruin Bay River Pothole. The location of the Bruin River Pothole is 59° 22.88' N. lat., 154° 9.16' W. long.

On a July 23 aerial survey, over 40,000 pink salmon were counted in the Bruin River. Since 1970 there have been three years where escapement to this system has exceeded 1 million fish. Given the early date of this observation where only 4% of the return is anticipated to be complete, a significant return to the Bruin River may be pending.

The following areas remain closed to commercial purse seine harvest,

-waters of Akumwarvik Bay inshore of a line from 59° 03.31' N. lat., 154° 11.241' W. long., to a point on the island at 59° 02.818' N. lat, 154° 10.177' W. long. to a point on the west shore at 59° 02.321' N. lat., 154° 07.080' W. long.

-waters of the Douglas River area inshore of a line from 59° 03.778' N. lat., 153° 46.085' W. long., to a point at 59° 03.945' N. lat., 153° 45.089' W. long.

Remaining waters of the Kamishak Bay District excluding the McNeil, and Paint River subdistricts, and excluding the Kirschner Lake SHA north of 59° 23.8' N. latitude, are open to commercial harvest. Fishing remains open in Chenik Lagoon up to the freshwater of Chenik Creek.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, August 8.

Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307. Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.