

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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**Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #2**

**KAMISHAK BAY DISTRICT:** Waters of the Kamishak District south of the northern tip of Nordyke Island will open at 6:00 A.M. on Monday, May 25 to commercial salmon seining seven days per week, until further notice. Anadromous waters regulations as specified in 5AAC 39.290 are suspended in McNeil Cove until further notice with commercial fishing permitted in waters outside of McNeil Lagoon with all waters behind the McNeil Spit ( south of 59° 7.4' north latitude) closed. The department ***does not*** anticipate opening the waters of McNeil Lagoon to commercial salmon harvest. The intent of this early opening is to harvest sockeye salmon returning to Mikfik Lake. In 2014 over 20 thousand fish returned to this system. Of those, only 3,400-13,000 were required to meet the sustainable escapement goal for Mikfik Lake.

The remaining waters of the Kamishak District are anticipated to open on June 1 to commercial salmon harvest.

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Set gillnet:** Within the Southern District, portions of the Barabara Creek Subdistrict, the Tutka Bay Subdistrict, the Halibut Cove Subdistrict and the Seldovia Bay Subdistrict will open to commercial salmon set gillnet fishing for the 2015 season at 6:00 am on Monday, June 1 for a 48-hour period. Commercial fishing periods will continue 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. Waters of the Port Graham Subdistrict, including both the Port Graham and English Bay sections, will remain CLOSED to commercial salmon set gillnet fishing until further notice as a precautionary measure to protect sockeye salmon returning to English Bay lakes. These areas may open to commercial harvest when spawning escapement levels are tracking to meet the sustainable escapement goal for English Bay Lakes.

Title 5, chapter 21.330(b)(1) of Alaska administrative code states that set gillnets may be used to harvest salmon commercially in portions of the Southern District within 1,000 feet of beach areas as measured from low water. Mean low water according to the NOAA tidal datum for Seldovia is 0.517 meters (1.7 feet) above mean lower low water which is 0.0 meters (0.0 feet). Low water is shown on NOAA chart #16645 as a dotted line between mud flats and shallower water. Further documentation regarding chart notation may be found on the NOAA website here:

[http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/learnnc\\_shoreline.html](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/learnnc_shoreline.html)

**The next scheduled commercial salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, May 29.**

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.