ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Wrangell... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the drift gillnet fishery in Districts 6 and 8 will open **on Monday, June 15, 2015, in the following areas**:

District 6: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Monday, June 15, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 17, with the following restriction:

> **Section 6-D: will be closed north and east of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60′ N. latitude, 132°42.70′ W. longitude, to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point.**

District 8: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Monday, June 15, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 17, with the following restrictions:

> **Frederick Sound: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed south and west of a line from the District 10 boundary one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to the southernmost tip of Sukoi Island to Frederick Point and closed south and east of a line from Bear Creek at 56°42.91′ N. latitude, 132°44.53′ W. longitude to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore at 56°46.63′ N. latitude, 132°37.09′ W. longitude**;
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> **Stikine River: waters off the Stikine River will be closed north and east of a line from a point east of Blind Slough on Mitkof Island at 56°31.95′ N. latitude, 132°40.67′ W. longitude to a point on the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough at 56°31.82′ N. latitude, 132°40.15′ W. longitude to Two Tree Island Light to Neal Point Light to the navigational marker at Woronkofski Point (The Nose) on Woronkofki Island at 56°26.35′ N. latitude, 132°28.87′ W. longitude and down the Woronkofski Island eastern shoreline to East Point at 56°22.97′ N. latitude, 132°24.26′ W. longitude to a point on the Wrangell Island shoreline located at the latitude of East Point.**

A reliable inseason Stikine River Chinook salmon abundance estimate is not available due to poor river conditions affecting the mark and recapture assessment program. Therefore, the forecast is unchanged from the preseason forecast of 30,200 Chinook salmon, which is too small to allow for directed commercial fishing. Because of these projections, fishing time in both districts will start initially for two days in combination with area restrictions in place for District 8. Management

biologists will be on the grounds monitoring catches and will make an announcement via VHF radio at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 18, regarding potential additional fishing time.

Chinook salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. Chinook salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaska allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. Therefore, fishermen and tenders are asked to keep king salmon harvested in Terminal Hatchery Areas separate from those harvested in District 6 and 8. Separating these harvests will greatly assist in fish accounting purposes in regards to the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared Chinook salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaska share of the harvest.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S1115.

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

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