

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



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P.O. Box 1467
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**2015 Kuskokwim Bay Salmon Fishery News Release 5
Emergency Order #3-S-WB-07-15**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Bethel for subsistence and commercial salmon fisherman in the Kuskokwim Area.

District 4, Quinhagak

District 4, Quinhagak, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2015.

In District 4, the subsistence salmon fishing is closed 16 hours before, during, and 6 hours after each commercial fishing period. **Subsistence fishermen must have their nets out of the waters of District 4 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14. Subsistence fishing will reopen at 3:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 16.**

District 5, Goodnews Bay

District 5, Goodnews Bay, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2015. Closed waters will include those east of a line, from approximately Big Beluga on the north side of the bay to Little Beluga on the south side of the bay. The remainder of District 5 will be open to commercial salmon fishing (Figure 1).

The open area of District 5 is being reduced temporarily for the conservation of Chinook salmon. ADF&G has determined that catches of Chinook salmon on the Platinum side of the district are lower than catches on the Goodnews side of the district. This reduced area opening is an attempt to target abundant sockeye salmon while conserving Chinook salmon. Commercial salmon fishing periods will likely be spread out more until the middle of July due to Chinook salmon concerns. At that time, it is anticipated that the normal commercial fishing schedule will resume.

In District 5, subsistence salmon fishing is closed 16 hours before, during, and 6 hours after each commercial fishing period. **Subsistence fishermen must have their nets out of the waters of District 5 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14. Subsistence fishing will reopen at 3:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 16.**

The Department will be closely monitoring commercial fishing periods to assess fishery performance and anticipates announcing additional commercial fishing periods as warranted. Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the state web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

Commercial fishermen are encouraged to consult Fish and Game regulations prior to beginning commercial fishing operations.

For additional information or questions regarding Districts 4 and 5 and Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 855-933-2433.

Kuskokwim Management Area District W-5

Goodnews Bay

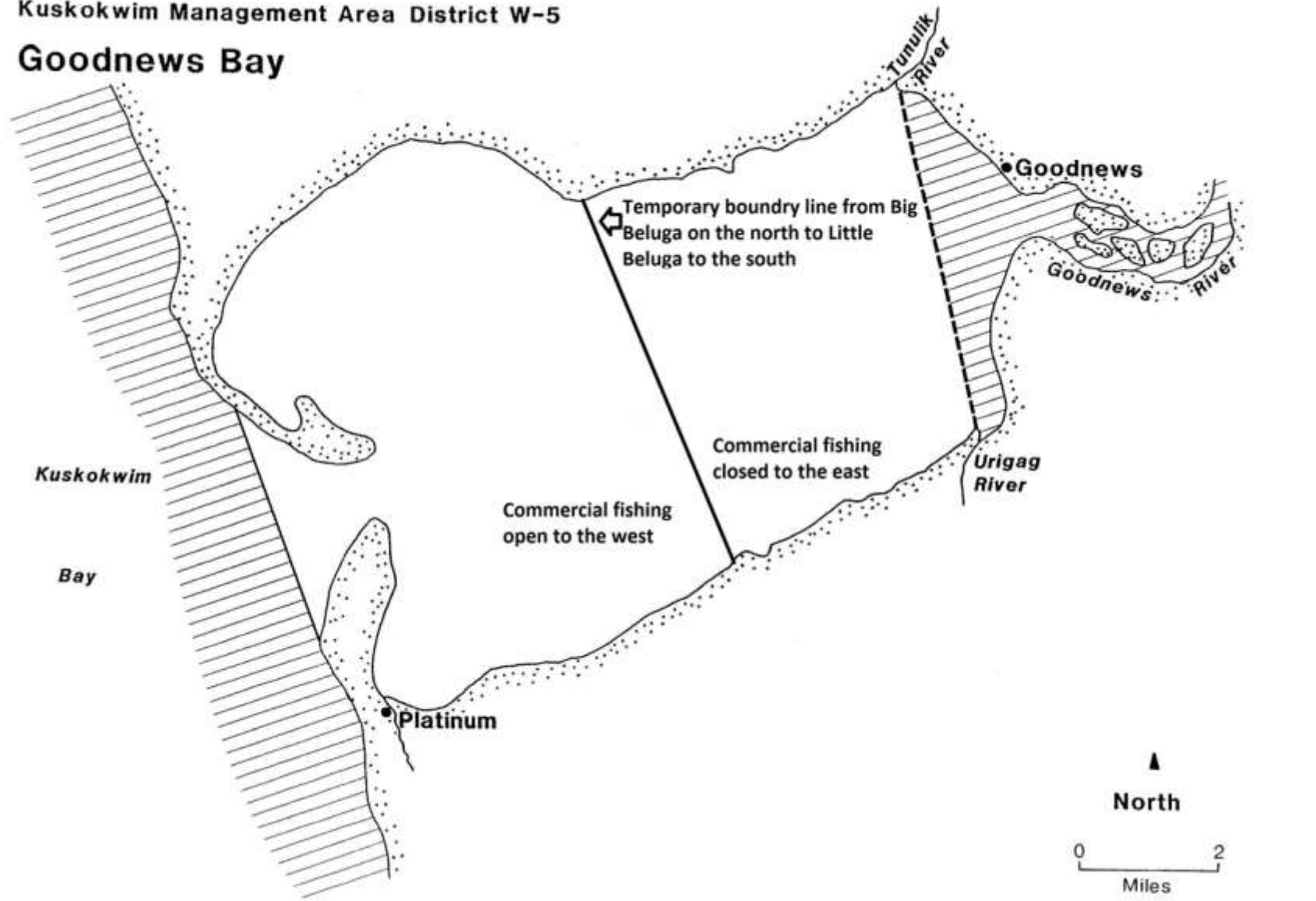


Figure 1.— Half district line, District 5, Goodnews Bay.