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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
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Sitka Area Office  
304 Lake Street, Room 103  
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Date: August 24, 2017  
Time: 2:15 p.m.

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#### **SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, August 27, 2017.

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 27, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 31**, with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals: will be closed north of Akeku Point at 54°50.03' N. latitude at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

District 6: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 27, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 29**, with the following restriction:

Section 6-D: will be closed.

District 8: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 27, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 29**, 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;

Stikine River: waters off the Stikine River will be closed west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point, north of the Wrangell Island shoreline from Hour Point to Point Highfield, north and east of a line from Point Highfield to the southern end of Liesnoi Island to the southern end of Greys Island to the small island near the eastern entrance to Blind Slough to the nearest point of Mitkof Island, and south and east of a line from the prominent point of Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island to the northern end of Coney Island to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore.

Section 11-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 27, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 30**, with the following restrictions:

Limestone Inlet: will be closed;

Port Snettisham: will be closed east of a line from Sharp Point at 58°00.66' N. latitude, 133°47.15' W. longitude to Sentinel Point at 57°59.74' N. latitude, 133°45.62' W. longitude.

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 27, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 30, in all waters of Lynn Canal**, with the following restrictions:

Chilkat Inlet: will be closed north of a line from Glacier Point at 59°06.02' N. latitude, 135°22.97' W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Twin Coves at 59°06.58' N. latitude, 135°21.70' W. longitude;

**Lutak Inlet: will be closed north of a line from a point on the west side of Lutak Inlet at 59°18.05' N. latitude, 135°31.33' W. longitude to a point on the east shore at 59°18.73' N. latitude, 135°30.16' W. longitude (the White Rock line).**

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 27, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 30, in all waters of Lynn Canal**.

Section 15-C Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA): the inside waters of the Boat Harbor THA west of the regulatory markers at the entrance to Boat Harbor will remain open until further notice.

**Fishermen are advised that Yankee Cove remains closed for the season, north and east of a line from the end of the breakwater at 58°35.28' N. latitude, 134°54.22' W. longitude to a point on the shore at 58°35.19' N. latitude, 134°54.01' W. longitude.**

The Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery is now being managed according to the District One Pink Salmon Management Plan (5AAC 33.360). It is expected that the District 1 purse seine fishery will be given at least two days of fishing time during statistical week 35. Therefore, the Tree Point drift gillnet fishery will be allowed at least four days of fishing time. If the District 1 purse seine fishery is open for more than two days during statistical week 35, the fishing time at Tree Point will be extended accordingly.

Section 6-D is closed after the first Saturday in August and before the first Sunday in September except as provided for in 5 AAC 33.359. This regulation opens a portion of Section 6-D to the drift gillnet fishery when the purse seine fishery is opened in that area. A separate news release will be issued in the event that portion of 6-D is opened and notice will likely be very short.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S6117.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates  
Statistical Week 34 (August 20 through 26)  
Preliminary Estimates Compiled August 24, 2017

NUMBER OF SALMON								Days
District	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Open
District 1	8	800	800	27,000	6,000	34,608	30	5
District 6	10	1,000	2,000	17,000	4,000	24,010	40	3
District 8	10	200	900	3,000	1,000	5,110	26	3
District 11	20	9,000	2,000	6,000	3,000	20,020	45	3
District 15	2	1,200	150	2,200	3,200	6,752	25	2
Total	50	12,200	5,850	55,200	17,200	90,500		

FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD						
District	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
District 1	0	27	27	900	200	1,154
District 6	0	25	50	425	100	600
District 8	0	8	35	115	38	197
District 11	0	200	44	133	67	445
District 15	0	48	6	88	128	270

Nakat Inlet THA: 105,000 chum salmon to date.

Anita Bay THA: 200 coho salmon to date.

Deep Inlet THA: 1,470 king and 208,000 chum salmon to date.

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

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