ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



Contact:

Glenn Hollowell, Finfish Area Management Biologist Ethan Ford, Fisheries Biologist Phone: (907) 235-8191 Lower Cook Inlet Area Office 3298 Douglas Place Homer, AK 99603 Date Issued: Friday, Sept 1, 2017, 2:00 PM

Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #32

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Purse seine: Effective Monday, September 4 waters of the Tutka Bay Hatchery special harvest area (SHA) excluding waters inshore of a line from a point at 59° 27.54' N. lat., 151° 25.82' W. long. to another point at 59° 26.15' N. lat., 151° 22.76' W. long. (see Figure 1) is open seven days per week on a schedule of daily 16 hour commercial fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Anadromous waters restrictions in the Tutka SHA are rescinded until further notice. Fishing is permitted up to the fresh water of anadromous streams in the Tutka SHA using the definition of "fresh water" in 5AAC 39.975(26). This clearly states that, "fresh water of streams and rivers" means fresh water separated from salt water at the mouth of streams and rivers by a line drawn between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks at the present stage of the tide.

The following areas remain open to commercial seine harvest on a seven day per week schedule of 16 hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily,

-the Seldovia Subdistrict,

-the China Poot Subdistrict including both the China Poot and Neptune Bay sections,

-the Humpy Creek Subdistrict up to the fresh water of Humpy Creek (note that a recent ground survey of Humpy Creek documented 30,000 fish in the lower creek with many more milling offshore),

-the Port Graham Subdistrict excluding the Port Graham Hatchery SHA, and -the Halibut Cove Subdistrict.



Set gillnet: Waters of the Southern District identified in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1) remain open to commercial set gillnet harvest on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week beginning at 6:00 AM on Mondays and Thursdays.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: (continued)

In 2016, sockeye and pink salmon sampled from the Southern District commercial common property seine fishery during statistical week 30 (July 17-23) were 21.5% and 94.7% hatchery thermal marked (Table 1). Sockeye salmon sampled from the commercial set gillnet fishery in 2016 during week 31 were 27.2% hatchery marked. Overall, 49.6% of the sockeye salmon samples collected from the purse seine fishery in 2016 had hatchery thermal marks applied to their otoliths. Samples taken from pink salmon harvested in the purse seine fishery were 91.7% hatchery marked overall in 2016. Sockeve salmon sampled from the set gillnet fishery in 2016 were 29.3% hatchery thermal marked overall. There were no samples collected in 2016 from pink salmon harvested in the set gillnet fisherv[°].

Table 1.- Percentage of thermally marked sockeye and pink salmon otoliths sampled from commercial common property fisheries in the Southern District of Lower Cook Inlet 2016

Insucces in the Southern District of Lower Cook fillet, 2010.			
	purse seine		set gillnet
dates, (stat week)	sockeye	pink	sockeye
6/12-18, (week 25)	ns	ns	41.9%
6/19-25, (week 26)	96.8%	ns	29.1%
6/26-7/2, (week 27)	81.0%	ns	39.4%
7/3-9, (week 28)	77.7%	ns	33.1%
7/10-16, (week 29)	14.0%	90.5%	23.2%
7/17-23, (week 30)	21.5%	94.7%	19.5%
7/24-30, (week 31)	ns	ns	27.2%
7/31 - 8/6, (week 32)	ns	83.9%	ns
8/7-13, (week 33)	ns	97.0%	ns
Overall hatchery marked	49.6%	91.7%	29.3%
ns- not sampled			

ns- not sampled

OUTER DISTRICT: The following areas remain open on a seven days per week schedule of 16-hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily,

-waters of the Port Chatham Subdistrict,

-waters of the Port Dick Subdistrict west of 151°10.5'W.long. (Middle Ck. & Head End sections),

-waters of the Dogfish Bay Subdistrict excluding the Dogfish Bay lagoon,

-waters of the Windy Bay Subdistrict up to the fresh water of the Windy Bay Rivers,

-waters of the Rocky Bay Subdistrict, and

-waters of the Nuka Island Subdistrict in the Petrof area north and west of a point at 59° 20.00' N. lat., 150° 48.00' W. long.

KAMISHAK DISTRICT: Subdistricts of the Kamishak District as defined in 5AAC 21.200(e) excluding the McNeil River Subdistrict, and the Paint River Subdistrict are open 7-days per week, 24-hours per day. Anadromous waters closures are rescinded for Sunday Creek, Brown's Peak Creek, Chenik River and lagoon, and Bruin River downstream of and including the pothole.

The next scheduled commercial salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, September 15.

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.

²⁰¹⁶ LCI Annual Management Report, appendices F22, F24, and F25. ADF&G, Fishery Management Report, Anchorage. Available for download: www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMR17-26.pdf