

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #1

EASTERN DISTRICT: Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) projects 200,000 hatchery released sockeye salmon will return to Resurrection Bay in 2018. Most of these fish will be targeted for cost recovery harvest; 12,800 are needed for escapement and broodstock. Commercial common property purse seine fishing is anticipated to begin at 6:00 AM on July 5 for daily Monday – Friday, 16-hour fishing periods. CIAA anticipates cost recovery operations to begin in Resurrection Bay on May 15. Cost recovery operations will be suspended within 100 feet of the water's edge in the Spring Creek area from the Seward Ships Drydock, north to the area of the sawdust pile from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM, 7 days per week.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: CIAA anticipates 123,400 sockeye and 1.9 million pink salmon to return to Southern District release sites. Pink salmon otoliths sampled from the common property purse seine fishery in 2017 were 30.6% hatchery marked. Sockeye salmon otoliths sampled from this fishery were 50.3% hatchery marked. Sockeye salmon otoliths sampled in 2017 from the commercial set gillnet fishery were 11.9% hatchery marked and pink salmon sampled from this fishery were 28.1% hatchery marked^a.

Set gillnet: Starting on Friday, June 1 specific waters of the Southern District identified in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1) are 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 as defined in 5AAC 21.320(a)(3). The first fishing period on Friday June 1 will be 24 hours in length from 6:00 AM on June 1 until 6:00 AM Saturday, June 2.

The following GPS coordinates define the seaward boundaries of areas in which commercial set gillnet harvest may occur as defined in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1)(A-D).

Halibut Cove:

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| (1.) 59° 36.27' N. lat., 151° 13.10' W. long., | (2.) 59° 36.11' N. lat., 151° 12.58' W. long., |
| (3.) 59° 35.65' N. lat., 151° 12.60' W. long., | (4.) 59° 35.70' N. lat., 151° 12.12' W. long. |

Barabara Point, Kasitsna Bay, and McDonald Spit:

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| (1.) 59° 29.39' N. lat., 151° 38.76' W. long., | (2.) 59° 29.31' N. lat., 151° 38.20' W. long., |
| (3.) 59° 28.80' N. lat., 151° 36.12' W. long., | (4.) 59° 28.83' N. lat., 151° 35.44' W. long., |
| (5.) 59° 29.25' N. lat., 151° 34.53' W. long., | (6.) 59° 29.33' N. lat., 151° 34.47' W. long., |
| (7.) 59° 29.37' N. lat., 151° 34.20' W. long., | (8.) 59° 29.29' N. lat., 151° 33.89' W. long., |
| (9.) 59° 29.00' N. lat., 151° 33.16' W. long., | (10.) 59° 28.84' N. lat., 151° 33.18' W. long., |
| (11.) 59° 28.66' N. lat., 151° 33.91' W. long., | (12.) 59° 28.30' N. lat., 151° 33.84' W. long., |
| (13.) 59° 28.47' N. lat., 151° 32.68' W. long., | (14.) 59° 28.39' N. lat., 151° 32.11' W. long., |
| (15.) 59° 28.16' N. lat., 151° 32.03' W. long. | |

Seldovia:

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| (1.) 59° 27.37' N. lat., 151° 44.63' W. long., | (2.) 59° 27.45' N. lat., 151° 44.41' W. long., |
| (3.) 59° 27.38' N. lat., 151° 44.22' W. long., | (4.) 59° 26.96' N. lat., 151° 44.19' W. long., |
| (5.) 59° 26.74' N. lat., 151° 43.78' W. long., | (6.) 59° 25.90' N. lat., 151° 44.12' W. long., |
| (7.) 59° 25.14' N. lat., 151° 43.53' W. long. | |

Port Graham:

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| (1.) 59° 21.41' N. lat., 151° 56.77' W. long., | (2.) 59° 21.49' N. lat., 151° 56.31' W. long., |
| (3.) 59° 21.78' N. lat., 151° 56.10' W. long., | (4.) 59° 22.07' N. lat., 151° 55.04' W. long. |
| (5.) 59° 22.04' N. lat., 151° 52.37' W. long., | (6.) 59° 21.71' N. lat., 151° 51.11' W. long., |
| (7.) 59° 21.66' N. lat., 151° 50.19' W. long., | (8.) 59° 21.37' N. lat., 151° 49.01' W. long., |
| (9.) 59° 21.06' N. lat., 151° 49.61' W. long. | |

Note the addition of point #1 off of Barabara Point, a correction made to point #4 in this area, as well as a correction to point #7 in the Seldovia area.

The next scheduled commercial salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, May 25.

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>

^a 2017 LCI Annual Management Report, appendices F26, F29, F33 and F36. *In prep.* ADF&G, Fishery Management Report, Anchorage.