
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director



Contact:
Dan Gray

Phone: (907) 747-6688
Fax: (907) 747-6693

Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
Sitka, AK 99835
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Time: 3:30 p.m.

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, July 29, 2018.

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 2**, with the following restriction:

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

District 6: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 31**, with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: will be closed north and east of a line from Point Nesbitt to Nesbitt Reef Light to 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;

Salmon Bay: will be closed west of a line from Point Colpoys to Rookery Island Light to the westernmost tip of Fire Island to a point on Prince of Wales Island at the latitude of the westernmost tip of Fire Island.

District 8: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 31**, with the following restrictions:

Frederick Sound: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed south and west of a line from the District 10 boundary 1.0 nautical miles (nmi) off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light 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;

Kunk Creek: waters of Zimovia Strait will be closed west of a line extending due south from a point on Etolin Island at 56°17.82' N. latitude, 132°22.98' W. longitude, to the District 7/8 boundary line in Zimovia Strait.

Section 11-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 1**, with the following restrictions:

Limestone Inlet: **will be closed**;

Port Snettisham: will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman 57°58.42' N. latitude, 133°53.93' W. longitude to Point Anmer at 57°56.07' N. latitude, 133°51.05' W. longitude;

Gillnet mesh restriction: minimum allowed mesh size is six inches south of the latitude of Circle Point at 58°07.76' N. latitude.

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 31, in the waters of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Talsani Island at 59°04.26' N. latitude, east of a line from the southernmost tip of Talsani Island at 59°04.26' N. latitude, 135°16.25' W. longitude to Eldred Rock Light at 58°58.25' N. latitude, 135°13.25' W. longitude, to a point 2.0 nmi from the eastern shoreline at 58°51.00' N. latitude, 135°12.77' W. longitude, and north of the latitude of Sherman Rock at 58°51.00' N. latitude.**

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 29, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 31**, in the waters south of the latitude of Point Bridget at 58°40.73' N. latitude and north of the latitude of Little Island Light at 58°32.41' N. latitude.

Section 15-C Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA): will remain open until further notice in those waters within 1.0 nmi of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude, south to 58°37.05' N. latitude.

There are no mesh size restrictions in District 15.

Beginning Sunday, July 15, 2018, the Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery will be managed according to the District One Pink Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 33.360). The District 1 purse seine fishery is expected to receive two days of fishing time during statistical week 31. Therefore, the Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery will be given four days of fishing time. If the District 1 purse seine fishery is open for more than two days during statistical week 31, the fishing time in Section 1-B will be extended accordingly.

District 6 will be managed in accordance to the 2018 McDonald Lake Action plan which limits fishing time in District 6 to a maximum of 2 days per week during statistical weeks 29 through 31. If additional time is warranted in District 8, it will be in the form of a midweek opening rather than an extension during the remainder of the sockeye salmon management period.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S4118.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates								
Statistical Week 30 (July 22 through July 28)								
Preliminary Estimates Compiled July 26, 2018								
NUMBER OF SALMON								
District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Days Open
District 1	40	1,800	400	27,000	32,000	61,240	40	4
District 6	200	3,700	2,000	40,000	30,000	75,900	69	2
District 8*	180	800	100	2,500	19,000	22,580	59	3
District 11*	70	20,000	2,000	10,000	50,000	82,070	110	4
District 15	90	7,000	125	2,000	81,500	90,715	88	7
Total	580	33,300	4,625	81,500	212,500	332,505		
FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD								
District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total		
District 1	1	45	10	675	800	1,531		
District 6	3	54	29	580	435	1,100		
District 8*	3	14	2	42	322	383		
District 11*	1	182	18	91	455	746		
District 15	1	80	1	23	926	1,031		
Nakat Inlet THA: 68,000 chum salmon to date.								
Anita Bay THA: 10,500 Chinook and 23,000 chum salmon to date.								
Deep Inlet THA: 3,000 Chinook and 43,000 chum salmon to date.								
*District 8 one-day mid-week opening, and District 11 one-day extension harvest not included.								

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