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

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304 Lake Street, Room 103
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Time: 3:45 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, August 5, 2018.

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 9,** 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, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 8,** with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: **will be closed**;

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, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 8,** 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, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 8,** 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**.

There will be no mesh size restriction in Section 11-B.

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 9, north of the latitude of the Katzehin River flats light at 59°11.73′ N. latitude.**

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 7, south of the latitude of Seduction Point at 59°04.93′ N. latitude.**

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 5, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 7,** in the waters south of the latitude of Point Bridget at of 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.

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 32. 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 32, the fishing time in Section 1-B will be extended accordingly.

If Speel Lake sockeye salmon escapement numbers through Friday or Saturday (August 3 or 4) warrant an opening of the Speel Arm Special Harvest Area (SHA) on Sunday at noon, a separate area extension news release will be issued in advance of the general opening. The Speel Arm SHA may also open on short notice during the general opening.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S4618.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates
Statistical Week 31 (July 29 through August 4)
Preliminary Estimates Compiled August 2, 2018

NUMBER OF SALMON

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Days Open
District 1	30	2,600	650	24,000	19,000	46,280	40	4
District 6	400	3,500	5,000	57,000	13,500	79,400	88	2
District 8	100	300	300	2,800	10,000	13,500	42	2
District 11*	50	8,000	2,000	4,000	17,000	31,050	50	4
District 15	30	13,500	100	4,500	35,000	53,130	94	7
Total	610	27,900	8,050	92,300	94,500	223,360		

FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
District 1	1	65	16	600	475	1,157
District 6	5	40	57	648	153	902
District 8	2	7	7	67	238	321
District 11*	1	160	40	80	340	621
District 15	0	144	1	48	372	565

Nakat Inlet THA: 71,000 chum salmon to date.
Anita Bay THA: 10,900 Chinook and 43,000 chum salmon to date.
Deep Inlet THA: 3,100 Chinook and 55,000 chum salmon to date.

*District 11 one-day extension harvest not included.

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