ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



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Time: 2:15 p.m.

NEETS BAY TERMINAL HARVEST AREA FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ketchikan. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following information for the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) concerning the Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (THA).

The Neets Bay THA has the following line definitions:

- The "Inner Bay Line" begins from a point at the northern shore of Neets Bay at 55°47.78' N. latitude, 131°31.00' W. longitude, to a point on the southern shore of Neets Bay at 55°46.93' N. latitude, 131°31.21' W. longitude;
- The "Mid Bay Line" begins from a point on the northern shore at 55°47.62' N. latitude, 131°34.50' W. longitude, to a point on the southern shore at 55°46.83' N. latitude, 131°34.36' W. longitude;
- "Bug Island" is the easternmost tip of Bug Island at 131°39.14' W. longitude.

The waters of Neets Bay, west of the easternmost tip of Bug Island, is open for troll gear until September 20 during the summer troll fisheries.

The Neets Bay THA will be open from August 15 until August 24 for the following gear rotations.

Troll:

Troll:

12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 15, to 12:00 noon, Friday, August 17 – open from Bug Island to the Inner Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Friday, August 17, to 12:00 noon, Saturday, August 18 - open from Bug Island to the Mid Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Saturday, August 18, to 12:00 noon, Sunday, August 19 - open from Bug Island to the Inner Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Sunday, August 19, to 12:00 noon, Monday, August 20 – open from Bug Island to the Mid Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Monday, August 20, to 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 21 – open from Bug Island to the Inner Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 21, to 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 22 - Closed;

12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 22, to 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 23 – open from Bug Island to the Inner Bay Line;

Purse Seine:

12:00 noon, Friday, August 17, to 12:00 noon, Saturday, August 18 - open from the Mid Bay Line to the Inner Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 21, to 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 22 – open from Bug Island to the Inner Bay Line;

Drift Gillnet:

12:00 noon, Sunday, August 19, to 12:00 noon, Monday, August 20 – open from the Mid Bay Line to the Inner Bay Line;

12:00 noon, Thursday, August 23, to 12:00 noon, Friday, August 24 – open from Bug Island to the Inner Bay Line.

The Neets Bay THA will close to the harvest of salmon by all gear groups at 12:00 noon, Friday, August 24. If additional openings can be scheduled, they will be announced by News Release.

The Neets Bay THA rotation fisheries will open to harvest salmon in excess of cost recovery needs. Chum broodstock, which are close to or inside the barrier net still need to be protected to ensure that SSRAA's egg take goals are met. Because of this concern, a reduced area was selected by the SSRAA board pre-season. The salmon available for harvest in the THA is estimated by SSRAA staff to be in modest levels.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1E1418.

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

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