USER INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENTS NEWS RELEASE SYSTEM

May 23, 2011
On May 23, 2011, a new system for publishing news releases announcing commercial fishery openings, closings, fishing areas, times, etc. became available on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website. This system also publishes non-regulatory fishery updates that convey information about specific fisheries, and allows users to find announcements about subsistence fishing and those personal use fisheries managed by the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

The new system replaces several older systems used by the division to publish fishing announcements and fishery updates to the web and allows a single entry portal for state-wide searching and the creation of email subscriptions.

As of May 31st, 2011, all news releases are now issued through this single system. The public may now subscribe to electronic notification via email for specific fisheries that may be of interest. All fishery news releases and announcements from that date forward will appear in the system as they are issued. If the public has subscribed to any news those news releases are delivered to the user’s email inbox as they are issued.

This system can be located on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website; a visitor to the site should look for the “News and Events” icon which can be found by clicking on the “Home” or “Fishing” menus at the top of any webpage on the site. A “News and Events” icon is located on these pages and clicking on this icon takes the user to the “News and Events” page. By clicking “Regulation Announcements, News Releases, Emergency Orders” and then the “Commercial Fishing” icon, the user will bring up the application for finding news releases, emergency orders, and fishery updates. The user can also go directly to this application by copying the following link into their browser. It might be a good idea to bookmark this link for ease of returning to the site for subsequent visits.

USING THE NEW SYSTEM - Searching for News Releases:

The new Commercial Fishing Regulation Announcements, News Release, and Updates web page allows you to select the news releases of interest by using the search screen. Drop down menus are available for all selection categories, to assist in filtering the search of News Releases. Using the drop down menus, you can narrow your search and the results of that search.

It is possible to view a list of all releases issued by the commercial fisheries division in an entire year or, as is usually the case, search for a specific fishery, like the Bristol Bay salmon fishery or Kodiak black rockfish fishery. To select the entire set of releases, every drop down menu should have “all” selected, except for year, which should be set for the current year, 2011. Press the “Search” button and the results will be displayed within the “Search Results” box. The following screen shot shows the selection criteria and search results for all news releases and updates.

To search for news releases specific to the Bristol Bay salmon fishery, the user selects 2011 as the year, salmon as the species, Bristol Bay as the management area, all for district, and activity as commercial fishing. Then push the “Search” button and the results are displayed in the “Search Results.” A screen
print of this selection is provided below. It would also be possible to search for a specific district in Bristol Bay by also selecting one of the “District” options within a specific management area.

To view a particular news release that is displayed in the Search Results section, the user will double click on that item in the list and it will open as a PDF document. The user will need to have Acrobat Reader installed on your computer to display and print the document.

Subscribing to News Releases:
After making a news release selection, it is possible to subscribe and receive, via email, future news releases for the specific fishery selected, by pushing the “Subscribe to News Releases” button at the right lower corner of the search screen. The subscription web page will display, as shown below.

Simply type in an email address in the box provided and then confirm this email address in the box provided for confirming email addresses, push the “Subscribe” button, and the subscription process is finished. News releases for the fisheries selected by the user will begin to appear in the user’s mailbox as they are published by ADF&G staff.

The user may return to the search screen by pushing the “Search for News Releases” button in the lower right hand corner of the subscription screen. When you subscribe to all News Releases for a specific category, as defined by the drop down menu, this subscription is limited to the selection you created. If you wish to subscribe to news releases for other fisheries you will need to repeat the process described above for each subscription desired.

A user may unsubscribe to any subscription by clicking on the link “Unsubscribe” that is included within each email sent to a subscriber.