

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



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Date Issued: June 24, 2012 Time: 12:00 noon

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**UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 3**  
**EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-03-12**

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 3 closes set gillnetting in the Kasilof Section of the Upper Subdistrict of Upper Cook Inlet on Monday, June 25, 2012 from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery (east side setnet fishery) is managed from the beginning of the season through July 7 primarily under the guidelines of 5AAC 21.365 *Kasilof River Salmon Management Plan*. The objective of this plan is to govern the harvest of Kasilof River salmon excess to spawning escapement needs. The Alaska Board of Fisheries (board) has stated that it is their intent that salmon be harvested in the fisheries that have historically harvested them, including the methods, means, times and locations of these fisheries. The primary harvester of Kasilof River sockeye salmon is the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery. The board established the season opening date for this fishery as the first regular period (Monday or Thursday) on or after June 25.

However, based on the poor performance of Kenai River early-run king salmon stocks, as well as king salmon stocks in Cook Inlet and other areas of the state, it is likely that the Kenai River late-run king salmon stock will also experience poor performance and require conservative management. Therefore, the department intends to manage the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery with two primary objectives. First, the department is charged with meeting an optimum escapement goal (OEG) in the Kasilof River, enumerated with sonar, of 160,000-390,000 sockeye salmon. The set gillnet fishery will be fished with this escapement objective as the primary management target. In addition, the fishery will also be managed to conserve late-run king salmon stocks, especially if inseason assessment reveals these stocks are performing poorly. Commercial fishing openings will be predicated upon sockeye salmon escapement levels and inseason assessment of late-run king salmon stocks. This is a significant change in the management of the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery, but the department's priority is to ensure adequate escapement and conserve salmon stocks when necessary.