Southeast Alaska/Yakutat Commercial Salmon Troll Fishery

Alaska Board of Fisheries
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Sitka

RC 3 – Tab 17

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Overview

• Abundance-based management
• King salmon harvest limit
• Southeast Alaska troll fishery
  • Winter
  • Spring
  • Summer
King Salmon Abundance Index

• Abundance-based management

• Chinook Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission determines the annual preseason abundance index (AI)

• AI equates to annual all-gear treaty harvest limit for Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK)

• Treaty harvest limit is allocated among gear groups with accounting year October-September
King Salmon Allocation

- Purse Seine = 4.3% of all-gear treaty harvest limit
- Drift Gillnet = 2.9% of all-gear treaty harvest limit
- Set Gillnet = 1,000 fish (historical average)
- Net gear total subtracted from all-gear harvest limit
- Remainder split between troll and sport fisheries:
  - 80% to troll
  - 20% to sport
All-Gear King Salmon Harvest

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Southeast Alaska Troll Fishery

- Primarily targets king and coho salmon
- Chum salmon also targeted in recent years
- Average of 1,100 troll permits fished annually
- Troll fishery open almost year-round
  - Winter fishery
  - Spring Fishery
  - Summer Fishery
Waters of Southeast Alaska/Yakutat

- State waters (within 3-miles of outer coast)
- Exclusive Economic Zone (outside 3-miles)
- Open waters vary by season
Winter King Salmon Fishery

- Open October 11-April 30, or until Guideline Harvest Level is reached

- Target king salmon, restricted to inside winter boundary line, or “surfline”

- Proposals:
  - 178 and 179 to modify winter boundary lines
Winter King Salmon Fishery

Graph showing the number of King salmon harvested from 1985 to 2017, distinguishing between non-Alaska hatchery harvest, Alaska hatchery harvest, and winter landings. The graph indicates variability in harvest numbers over the years.
Harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon - Late Winter Troll Genetic MSA and CWT based estimates

Number of SEAK Wild King Salmon

Year

Spring Troll Fisheries

- Open May 1 – June 30, or earlier
- Located along migration routes or near hatchery and release sites; target Alaska hatchery-produced king salmon
- Harvest of treaty king salmon is limited according to the percentage of the Alaska hatchery fish taken in each fishery
- Spring fisheries are managed individually on a weekly basis by emergency order
- Hatchery-produced chum salmon also targeted
- Proposals:
  - 133 and 134 limit or close spring fisheries for conservation
  - 172 and 180 reduce harvest limit restrictions
  - 173, 174, and 175 relate to chum salmon fisheries
Spring Troll King Salmon Harvests: 1986–2017

- **Total harvest**
- **Alaska hatchery %**

**Number of King Salmon**

- 1986
- 1987
- 1988
- 1989
- 1990
- 1991
- 1992
- 1993
- 1994
- 1995
- 1996
- 1997
- 1998
- 1999
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017

**Percent Alaska Hatchery**

- 0%
- 10%
- 20%
- 30%
- 40%
- 50%
- 60%
- 70%

**YEAR**
Harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon - Spring Troll
Genetic MSA and CWT based estimates

Number SEAK Wild King Salmon

Year

Spring Fisheries in Districts 12 and 14

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Directed Chum Troll Fisheries- 2001–2017

**Icy Strait/Homeshore**

- **Troll Chum Harvest**
- **Permits**

**SPRING TROLL**

**Neets Bay/West Behm**

- **Troll Chum Harvest**
- **Permits**

**SUMMER TROLL**

**Sitka Sound**

- **Troll Chum Harvest**
- **Permits**
Summer Troll Fishery

- Summer fishery begins on July 1, harvest and effort are at peak levels with most waters of the region open to troll gear.
- 1\textsuperscript{st} king opening: 70% of the king salmon remaining on the troll allocation after winter and spring fisheries end.
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} king opening: remaining 30% of the troll allocation.
- Also target coho and chum during summer.

Proposals:
- 177 allow opportunity for hatchery-produced coho salmon during coho conservation closures.
- 181 modify summer king opening harvest targets.
- 182 establish start date for second summer troll king opening.
- 183 adjust boundary of area closed to troll gear near Situk River.
Harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon - Summer R1 Troll
Genetic MSA and CWT based estimates

![Graph showing the harvest of Wild SEAK King Salmon from 2005 to 2017. The number of salmon harvested decreases over the years.]
Coho Salmon Fishery

- Troll coho retention begins June 1 and continues until late September
- Coho present in over 2,500 systems
- Fishery managed to ensure escapement goals are met and to achieve board allocation guidelines between gear groups over time
- Area near U.S./Canada border is managed in cooperation with Canada under terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty
- Run strength assessed in season
Troll Coho Salmon Closure Days

Number of Days

YEAR


10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

1st Closure Days
2nd Closure Days
Questions?