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



Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner Sam Rabung, Director



Contact: Grant Hagerman

Phone: (907) 747-6688 Fax: (907) 747-6693 Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street Room 103 Sitka, Alaska 99835 Date: August 28, 2019 Time: 2:15 p.m.

## SOUTHEAST ALASKA SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . .The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that a third Chinook salmon retention period of the general summer commercial troll season will begin at 12:01 a.m., September 1 to **target approximately 1,200 treaty Chinook salmon**. The retention period will continue for 10 days, from September 1 through 11:59 p.m., September 10, 2019. Based on the number of Chinook salmon remaining on the annual troll allocation and the number of permits actively fishing, a total of **2 Chinook salmon per permit** will be allocated during the 10-day fishery.

The department estimates that **82,000 treaty Chinook salmon have been harvested in the summer** troll fishery. Therefore, the target harvest for the third "Limited Harvest" retention period will be **approximately 1,200 Chinook salmon**. Provisions of a limited harvest fishery under 5 AAC 29.100(c)(2)(D) are as follows:

(i) a limited harvest fishery will open from 12:01 a.m., September 1 through 11:59 p.m., September 10, 2019;

(ii) the maximum allowable harvest during the limited harvest fishery is 2 king salmon per permit;

(iii) king salmon retained during a limited harvest fishery must be kept separate from other salmon on board the vessel;

(iv) both commercially sold king salmon and king salmon retained for personal use during a limited harvest fishery count toward the harvest limit;

(v) a copy of fish tickets documenting commercially sold king salmon or king salmon retained for personal use during a limited harvest fishery must be kept on board the vessel while operating gear in a limited harvest fishery and during transits to or from a port of landing;

(vi) fish tickets must be made available to a local representative of the department upon request;

(vii) after the closure of a limited harvest fishing period, all king salmon must be offloaded from a vessel before that vessel may be used to resume fishing for other salmon species;

(viii) any other conditions the commissioner determines necessary to conduct an orderly limited harvest fishery.

The areas of frequent high king salmon abundance, as described under 5 AAC 29.025, will remain closed for the season.

#### FAS VESSELS

Catcher-processors intending to freeze their catch onboard during the summer troll fishery must obtain an **Exemption Permit** from the Department in order to legally remove the heads from adipose -clipped salmon

per 5 AAC 29.140(b) and 5 AAC 29.145(c). The permit is available at area offices and on the troll fishery website.

Catcher-processor vessel owners (FAS) are reminded to complete and submit a **separate fish ticket for each week** (Sunday through Saturday). Fish tickets must be submitted to the department within seven days after the fish are offloaded from the vessel. At the time of landing, all harvest must be accounted for on fish tickets, including any salmon, other than Chinook salmon, not offloaded at that time and that may remain onboard during subsequent trips.

### LANDING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All Chinook salmon harvested during the limited harvest summer troll fishery must be offloaded prior to resuming fishing following the closure of the retention period. In addition to the reporting requirements specified in 5 AAC 39.130, trollers and processors are requested to record a 5-digit statistical area on fish tickets, whenever possible, rather than simply the district where the majority of the fish were caught. Summer troll tickets should be submitted to the Sitka ADF&G office within seven days after the fish are offloaded from the vessel.

#### TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS

Retention of Chinook salmon 28" and greater will be allowed in all regional troll THA/SHAs during the limited harvest fishery, with the exception of Neets Bay, which is closed to troll gear for the season east of the longitude of Chin Point.

Following the Chinook salmon closure, the Port Armstrong Special Harvest Area (SHA) and the Anita Bay and Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Areas (THA) will remain open for retention of all species. The Anita Bay THA closes by regulation November 10. The Port Armstrong SHA is open to troll gear through September 20. Troll openings in Deep Inlet THA are limited to each Saturday through September 28. All Chinook harvested in a THA/SHA must be offloaded prior to resuming trolling outside the THA/SHA. The Hidden Falls, Crawfish Inlet, and Nakat Inlet THAs will be open for all species except Chinook.

The 2019 Summer Troll Fishery Management Plan is available at all regional ADF&G offices and on the troll website at:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon\_managementplans.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is 1S5919.

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

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