



**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: April 13, 2020*

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**2020 SITUK RIVER CHINOOK SALMON FORECAST AND FISHERIES  
RESTRICTIONS**

Yakutat...The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today announced the following information concerning the **2020 Yakutat Area commercial set gillnet AND subsistence fisheries**.

**Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet:** will be **closed** to the retention of Chinook salmon in commercial and subsistence fisheries from **6:00 a.m., Friday, May 1, 2020, until further notice.**

The following areas will be **closed** to all commercial set gillnet and subsistence fishing from **6:00am., Friday, May 1, 2020, until further notice:**

**Mouth of Situk River:** will be closed near the mouth of the Situk River west of a line from an ADF&G regulation marker located at the southeast end of Johnson Slough at 59°26.27' N lat, 139°32.62' W long. to a regulation marker directly across the Inlet on Black Sand Spit at 59°25.77' N lat., 139°33.18' W long. to a regulation marker westward along the beach of Black Sand Spit at 59°26.52' N lat., 139°35.07' W long. to a regulation marker west of the Yakutat Seafoods buying station at 59°26.73' N lat., 139°34.64' W long.

**Johnson Slough: all waters of Johnson Slough will be closed.**

The Chinook salmon commercial, subsistence, and sport fisheries in the Situk River drainage are managed under the guidelines of the *Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet and Lost River King Salmon Fisheries Management Plan* (5 AAC 30.365). The plan directs the department to manage fisheries to achieve a biological escapement goal (BEG) range of 450-1,050 large (three ocean age and older) Chinook salmon to the Situk River. **The 2020 Situk River Chinook salmon preseason forecast is for a total run of 850 with a standard error of 607 large fish.** The BEG was not achieved in 2010 through 2012, and again in 2015, 2016, and 2018. If the run comes back as projected, the BEG will be achieved but actions in the directed sockeye salmon fisheries are essential to pass Chinook salmon.

The actions described above are intended to reduce fishery harvests of Situk River Chinook salmon and ensure the BEG is achieved. In addition, the department is requesting all Chinook salmon incidentally harvested in sockeye salmon directed commercial and subsistence fisheries be released immediately to assist in rebuilding the Situk River Chinook salmon run. **Subsistence fishermen are reminded that when fishing in the Situk River they are required to attend their gillnet at all times when it is being used to take salmon. If a Chinook salmon is found dead in a subsistence net, fishermen are to report it and turn it over to the Yakutat Fish and Game.** Please refer to the map on the following page identifying the closed areas.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1Y0120.



**Figure 1.** Situk-Ahrnklin Inlet waters closed to commercial and subsistence fishing in 2020.

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Wrangell</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&amp;G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220