



Advisory Announcement

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DEEP INLET TERMINAL HARVEST AREA FISHERIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The following information details the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (NSRAA) Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (THA) common property fisheries open waters and fishing schedules for the 2021 season.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries during its March 2021 meeting passed a regulation extending the 1:1 time ratio for drift gillnet openings to purse seine openings through the 2021 season.

The Deep Inlet THA is scheduled to open beginning June 1, 2021. NSRAA is projecting a total run of 17,600 Chinook 95,000 coho, and 1,608,000 chum salmon to the Medvejie Hatchery and Deep Inlet THA in 2021. This season, 130,000 chum salmon are needed for broodstock, and NSRAA does not anticipate cost recovery operations in the Deep Inlet THA. A portion of the Deep Inlet THA may be closed in late August to facilitate broodstock collection at Medvejie Hatchery.

Unless modified by subsequent advisory announcement, salmon may be taken in the Deep Inlet THA from Tuesday, June 1 through Saturday, September 25, 2021, as follows:

Purse Seine

- On June 3 and 4, the purse seine fishery will be open daily from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- From June 6 through August 15, the purse seine fishery will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday, Thursday, and Friday of each week.
- From August 16 through September 25, the purse seine fishery will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, Thursday, and Friday of each week.

Drift Gillnet

- On June 1 and 2, the drift gillnet fishery will be open daily from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- From June 6 through August 15, the drift gillnet fishery will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of each week.
- From August 16 through September 25, the drift gillnet fishery will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of each week.

Troll

- From June 1 through September 25, the troll fishery will be open from 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., Saturday of each week and during those periods the net fisheries are closed.

Trollers are reminded that all fish retained within the boundaries of the Deep Inlet THA listed below must be reported as being harvested in statistical area 113-38.

The Deep Inlet THA is described as follows:

Deep Inlet THA: Deep Inlet, Aleutkina Bay, and contiguous waters south of a line from a point west of Pirates Cove at 56°59.35' N lat, 135°22.63' W long, to the westernmost tip of Long Island at 56°59.95' N lat, 135°21.92' W long, to the easternmost tip of Long Island at 56°59.95' N lat, 135°20.36' W long, to the westernmost tip of Emgeten Island at 57°00.08' N lat, 135°20.01' W long, to the westernmost tip of Error Island at 57°00.53' N lat, 135°19.50' W long, to the westernmost tip of Berry Island at 57°00.32' N lat, 135°18.68' W long, to the southernmost tip of Berry Island at 57°00.27' N lat, 135°18.51' W long, to the westernmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group at 57°00.14' N lat, 135°18.27' W long, to the easternmost tip of the southernmost island in the Kutchuma Island group at 57°00.07' N lat, 135°17.93' W long, to the westernmost tip of an unnamed island at 57°00.30' N lat, 135°17.67' W long, to a point on the southern side of the unnamed island at 57°00.08' N lat, 135°16.78' W long, and then to a point on the Baranof Island Shore at 56°59.93' N lat, 135°16.53' W long with the following restrictions:

Sandy Cove: all waters south of 56°59.05' N lat will be closed.

The Deep Inlet THA west of 135°20.75' W long will be closed to purse seine and drift gillnet gear from June 1 through June 19.

By emergency order issued under 5 AAC 33.376 (b) (4), drift gillnet fishermen fishing in the Deep Inlet THA will be required to fish with a minimum mesh size of 6 inches through June 19 to reduce the harvest of wild sockeye salmon returning to Silver Bay.

By emergency order issued under 5 AAC 39.265, harvesters participating in purse seine and drift gillnet fisheries in the Deep Inlet THA are required to retain and utilize all salmon harvested. This action is being taken in order to promote full utilization of salmon, to prevent waste of salmon, to determine harvest patterns of incidentally harvested coho and sockeye salmon, and to enable the department and NSRAA to have full and accurate reporting of returns. This requires that all sockeye and coho salmon retained for personal use and not sold to be reported on fish tickets. Fishermen are advised that if they have fish on board from other fishing areas, they should keep them separate for reporting and sampling purposes.

Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions for the Deep Inlet THA: Purse seine and drift gillnet fishermen must retain all Chinook salmon harvested in the Deep Inlet THA. Chinook salmon of any size harvested by both purse seine and drift gillnet fishermen may be sold. Troll fishermen may only retain and sell Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches.

To reduce conflicts with private land owners, NSRAA is requesting that all fishing vessels and tenders not anchor, use high-intensity lights, or tender fish near Berry Island within the Deep Inlet THA; additionally, NSRAA requests that vessels use no-wake speeds when entering Deep Inlet via Silver Point. Additional information and a chart of preferred anchorage areas is available from the NSRAA office or online at <https://www.nsraa.org/>.

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1E0121.

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

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