Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: September 2, 2021 CONTACT: Grant Hagerman Commercial Troll Management Biologist- Region 1 grant.hagerman@alaska.gov (907) 747-6688

SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Southeast Alaska/Yakutat commercial troll fishery will close to the retention of Chinook salmon at 11:59 p.m., Friday, September 3, 2021. The combined harvest target of 57,000 treaty Chinook salmon from the second troll Chinook salmon retention period and remaining all-gear allowable catch of treaty Chinook is expected to be reached by that time.

The harvest target of the second troll Chinook retention period was increased to 57,000 Chinook salmon. This includes 53,000 Chinook (including a 2% Alaska hatchery component) as announced on August 4, 2021, and an additional 4,000 Chinook transferred from a portion of the unharvested commercial net fisheries allocation. The department estimates that the commercial troll and the transferred all-gear Chinook salmon treaty allocation will be harvested by the time of the closure.

All Chinook salmon must be offloaded from a salmon troll vessel following the Chinook closure and prior to resuming fishing operations for other species of salmon. Fish tickets are required to be submitted to the department within seven days of landing. A catcher–processor (FAS) that retains coho salmon onboard after the Chinook closure must submit a fish ticket to the department within seven days after offloading Chinook. The ticket must include an estimate of the number and pounds of other salmon species that remain onboard the vessel and a notation that estimated fish have not been offloaded.

Trollers are reminded that the **waters of frequent high king salmon abundance**, described in 5 AAC 29.025, will **remain closed** for the season.

Following the Chinook salmon closure, the Port Armstrong Special Harvest Area (SHA), Deep Inlet Terminal Harvest Area (THA), and Anita Bay THA will remain open for retention of all salmon species. The Port Armstrong SHA is open to troll gear through September 20, Deep Inlet THA is open to trollers on Saturdays through September 25, and Anita Bay THA remains open through 12:00 noon, November 10. All Chinook harvested in a THA/SHA must be offloaded prior to trolling outside the THA/SHA. The Crawfish Inlet, Hidden Falls, and Nakat Inlet THAs will be open for all species except Chinook salmon. Crawfish Inlet and Hidden Falls THAs are open through September 20 and Nakat Inlet THA is open through November 10, unless closed earlier by emergency order.

The Mist Cove SHA (109-13) will remain open to troll gear for all salmon species, except Chinook salmon, through 11:59 p.m., September 20. Trollers are advised to avoid cost recovery operations that are ongoing in the SHA. The waters of Mist Cove SHA are described as the waters west of a line from 56°31.70' N lat, 134°39.97' W long, to 56°31.27' N lat, 134°39.85' W long with the following restriction:

The waters south of a line from 56°31.07' N lat, 134°40.20' W long, to 56°31.07' N lat, 134°40.12' W long, are closed to troll gear.

The 2021 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 Orders corresponding with this announcement are 1S6421 and 1E2221.

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: <u>https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/</u>.



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

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