

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Soldotna Office
43961 K Beach Rd.
Soldotna Ak. 99669



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

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement
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CONTACT: Brian Marston
Area Management Biologist
(907) 262-9368

UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 7
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-07-22

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 7 opens commercial salmon fishing with set gillnets in the Kasilof Section of the Upper Subdistrict from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Thursday, June 30, 2022. During this fishing period, legal gear is restricted to no more than two set gillnets per permit that are each not more than 35 fathoms in length and 29 meshes in depth, or no more than one set gillnet per permit that is not more than 35 fathoms in length and 45 meshes in depth. As a reminder, any set gillnet that is not more than 29 meshes in depth as part of this restrictive provision must be identified at the end of the gillnet with an attached blue buoy that is not less than nine and one-half inches in diameter.

The Kasilof River sockeye salmon sonar count was 74,000 fish through June 28, and average run timing was at 19% which projects a final year end escapement of 396,000. Fishing in the waters described above is warranted to harvest sockeye salmon returning to the Kasilof River.

As announced in UCI Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 2, 5 AAC 21.359(e)(3)(C) *Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan* restricts the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery to no more than 24 hours per week by Emergency Order (EO), with a 36-hour continuous closure per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday. With regularly scheduled fishing periods on Mondays and Thursdays no longer in effect in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery, any and all fishing time may occur only via EO beginning June 20, 2022. With this fishing announcement, 24 hours of EO time will have been used for the week of June 26–July 2.

By regulation, set gillnet fisheries in The Western, Kustatan, Kalgin Island and Chinitna Bay subdistricts of the Central District, will fish their regularly scheduled period from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2022.

Also, by regulation, drift gillnet fishing will be open District Wide in the Central District, except for the Chinitna Bay Subdistrict, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2022. This announcement extends the commercial drift gillnet fishing period from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 30, 2022 in the Kasilof Section of the Upper Subdistrict only (not the Expanded Kasilof section).

Fishermen and processors are reminded of the legal requirement to report all commercially harvested salmon on a fish ticket, whether sold or kept for personal use, using the correct statistical fishing area or areas (5 AAC 39.130(c)(7)).

Fish harvested in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery during this fishing period should be reported in statistical areas 244-21, 244-22, or 244-31. Fish harvested in the drift gillnet fishery during this fishing period should be reported in statistical areas 244-60.