

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
For Immediate Release: July 16, 2022

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

UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 18
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-18-22

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 18 closes set gillnet fishing in the Kenai, Kasilof, and East Forelands Sections of the Upper Subdistrict until further notice.

On July 16, the Division of Sport Fish issued Emergency Order 2-KS-1-53-22 closing the Kenai River drainage to fishing for king salmon effective 12:01 a.m. Sunday, July 17, 2022. In compliance with the Kenai River Late-Run King Salmon Management Plan, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery is also closed. The Department will continue to monitor king salmon abundance in the Kenai River and if king salmon abundance improves the ESSN fisheries may be reopened.

5 AAC 21.359(d)(3) Kenai River Late-Run King Management Plan states that if the projected late-run large king salmon escapement is less than 15,000 fish, the department shall close the commercial set gillnet fishery in the Upper Subdistrict. As of July 15, 2022, Kenai River late-run large king salmon passage was estimated to be 2,352 fish and projected a final escapement of less than 15,000 fish for runs 3-day early or earlier. Inseason projections show all indices of abundance remain well below their respective minimum inseason management objective. At this time, it does not appear that the late-run will attain adequate escapement without significant restrictions to all fisheries that harvest this stock.

As of Sunday, July 17, 2022, no commercial set gillnet fishing periods will be allowed in the Upper Subdistrict of the Central District of Upper Cook Inlet. All other set gillnet fisheries in Upper Cook Inlet are not affected by this announcement.