## **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: Friday, July 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 PM

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### Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery News Release #14

Effective at 6:00 AM on Monday, July 25 the following areas in addition to those waters listed in 5AAC 21.350 are closed to commercial purse seine salmon harvest until further notice:

- 1.) waters of Humpy Creek south and east of a point at 59° 40.10' N. lat., 151° 09.70' W. long.;
- 2.) waters of Knoll Head Creek north and west of a point at 59° 37.80' N. lat., 153° 30.70' W. long.;
- 3.) waters of Brown Peak Creek north of a line between a point at 59° 32.60′ N. lat., 153° 44.30′ W. long. and another point at 59° 32.60′ N. lat., 153° 42.50′ W. long.;
- 4.) waters of Amakdedori Creek west of a line between a point at 59° 17.10′ N. lat., 154° 07.10′ W. long. and another point at 59° 16.10′ N. lat., 154° 07.10′ W. long.
- 5.) waters of Shelter Cove south and west of a point at 59° 17.30' N. lat., 151° 13.90' W. long.

In addition, the following areas remain closed to commercial purse seine salmon fishing until further notice:

- 6.) waters at the head end of Tutka Bay southeast of a line from 59° 25.51' N. lat., 151° 19.01' W. long., to 59° 25.14' N. lat., 151° 19.51' W. long.,
- 7.) waters of South Nuka Bay east of a line from 59° 18.62' N. lat., 150° 42.86' W. long., to 59° 18.13' N. lat., 150° 43.11' W. long.,
- 8.) waters of James Lagoon west of a line from 59° 34.11' N. lat., 150° 23.04' W. long., to 59° 33.05' N. lat., 150° 24.74' W. long.,
- 9.) waters of Aialik Bay and lagoon north of a line from 59° 52.58' N. lat., 149° 44.62' W. long., to 59° 52.75' N. lat., 149° 44.12' W. long.,
- 10.) waters of Rocky Cove inshore of a line from 59° 26.98' N. lat., 153° 44.36' W. long., to 59° 26.37' N. lat., 153° 43.92' W. long.,
- 11.) waters of McNeil Lagoon and bay inshore of a line from 59° 7.52' N. lat., 154° 15.00' W. long., to 59° 07.40' N. lat., 154° 14.20' W. long.,
- 12.) waters of Iniskin Bay north of 59° 43.85' N. lat., and waters of Iniskin Bay east of 153° 22.60' W. long., and,
- 13.) waters of Bruin Bay west of 154° 04.95' W. longitude.

Lower Cook Inlet map packets showing regulatory closed waters may be accessed online here: <a href="https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon#maps">https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon#maps</a>

As a reminder, unless otherwise specified in regulation or by emergency order, commercial fishing for salmon is prohibited at all times within 500 yards of the fresh water of a salmon stream and over the beds or channels of streams and rivers at all stages of the tide. Fresh water is considered separated from salt water, at the mouth of streams and rivers, by a line drawn between the seaward extremities of the exposed tideland banks at the present stage of the tide.

Through July 20, a total of 118,238 sockeye, and 8,167 pink salmon have been harvested by approximately 8 commercial purse seine permit holders in Lower Cook Inlet (LCI). Approximately 20 LCI set gillnet permit holders have harvested 18,927 sockeye and 1,946 pink salmon as of this date as well. Through July 18, Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) has harvested 106,517 sockeye, and 10,657 pink salmon for cost recovery purposes.

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT:** Purse seine: Effective at 10:00 PM on Friday, July 22, waters of the China Poot SHA are closed for the 2022 season to protect pink salmon returning to China Poot Creek. The following areas of the Southern District remain open for 16 hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until further notice,

- -the Halibut Cove Subdistrict,
- -the Tutka Bay Subdistrict, excluding the Tutka Bay Hatchery special harvest area, and
- -the Neptune Bay Section up to the fresh water of the Wosnesenski River using the definition of the fresh water located in 5AAC 39.975(a)(26).

Through July 20, commercial common property sockeye salmon harvest from the China Poot and Hazel Lake hatchery special harvest areas is estimated at 79,204 fish with approximately six commercial permit holders participating. These are English Bay Lake stock sockeye salmon released by CIAA with an average weight of 4.8 pounds each.

**Set gillnet:** Waters of the Southern District identified in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1) remain open to commercial set gillnet harvest on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week beginning at 6:00 AM on Mondays and Thursdays as defined in 5AAC 21.320(a)(3).

<u>OUTER DISTRICT</u>: Begining at 6:00 AM, Monday July 25 the Middle Creek and Head End sections of Port Dick are open to commercial salmon harvest on a schedule of daily 16 hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Begining at 6:00 AM on Saturday, July 23 regulatory closed waters for Desire Lake (5AAC21.350(F)(13)) are rescinded with commercial fishing permitted up to fresh water using the 5AAC39.975(a)(26) definition of fresh water of streams and rivers.

The following areas remain open on a schedule of daily 16 hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM. These areas are,

-the Dogfish Bay Subdistrict, -the Port Chatham Subdistrict,

-the Windy Bay Subdistrict, and -the East Nuka Subdistrict.

Regulatory closed waters (5AAC 21.350(f)(12)) that apply to Delight Lake are suspended until further notice. The Delight Lake freshwater lagoon, and the channel draining the freshwater lagoon are open to commercial salmon fishing. Portions of the Outer District may open to commercial salmon harvest on a 12-hour notice or less when specific systems can be anticipated to achieve their escapement goals.

**KAMISHAK DISTRICT:** Subdistricts of the Kamishak District as defined in 5AAC 21.299(e), excluding the McNeil River Subdistrict, the Paint River Subdistrict, and Kirschner Lake SHA remain open on a schedule of 7-days per week, 24-hours per day fishing periods. Waters of Chenik Lagoon east of 154° 08.50' W. long. are open to commercial salmon harvest. General closed waters restrictions (5AAC 39.290) and 21.350(h) and (i) are rescinded in Chenik Lagoon until further notice.

#### The next scheduled commercial salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, July 29.

Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307.

Current Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing regulation books are available at ADF&G offices, and online here: <a href="https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2020\_2022\_cf\_cook\_inlet\_salmon.pdf">https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2020\_2022\_cf\_cook\_inlet\_salmon.pdf</a>
This website may also be accessed by scanning the QR code at right.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address: <a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon</a>, which may also be accessed by scanning the adjacent QR code,

