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: March 6, 2023

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## SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT WINTER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2022/2023 commercial winter troll fishery for Chinook salmon will remain open in defined outer coastal waters east of the winter boundary line and will continue through 11:59 p.m., Saturday, April 15, 2023, or until the guideline harvest level (GHL) of 45,000 non-Alaska hatchery-produced (treaty) Chinook salmon is reached (5 AAC 29.070[b][1] and 5 AAC 29.080[a]). The commercial winter troll fishery will close in the remaining waters of the winter troll fishery area at 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2023, as detailed in the advisory announcement issued on September 28, 2022. For 2023, both the time and area have been modified for the extended fishing period beyond March 15, as compared to 2022. The Cross Sound and Lisianski Inlet and Strait areas are not included, and the opening period is reduced from April 30 to April 15.

During the 2022 Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting held in Anchorage, action plans were adopted giving the department direction, through emergency order authority, to identify and implement actions that provide conservation for Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK) and Transboundary River (TBR) wild Chinook salmon stocks while continuing to identify harvest opportunities that maintain conservation of these stocks. The harvest proportions of wild SEAK and TBR stocks seen in fisheries operating on the outside waters of Southeast Alaska continue to remain low due to the abundance of non-Alaska stocks prevalent in these areas. In contrast, the proportions of wild SEAK and TBR stocks encountered in fisheries operating on the inside waters of Southeast Alaska are of continued concern. Accordingly, the late winter troll fishery will be extended only in waters along the outer coast to harvest the remainder of the winter Chinook salmon GHL.

## The following waters will remain open to troll gear east of the winter boundary line (5 AAC 29.020[b]), as modified by emergency order:

District 3: in all waters of Sections 3-B and 3-C;

District 4: in all waters of the district;

<u>District 5</u>: in waters south of a line from Point Howard (56°04.15' N lat, 134°14.02' W long) to Cape Pole (55°57.43' N lat, 133°48.94' W long);

<u>District 9</u>: in waters south of a line from Cape Ommaney (56°09.83' N lat, 134°40.42' W long) to Point Howard (56°04.15' N lat, 134°14.02' W long);

<u>District 13</u>: in all waters of Section 13-B and in those waters of 13-A south of the latitude of Point Theodore at 57°50.73' N lat, 136°27.57' W long;

District 183: in all waters of the district;

District 181: in those waters of statistical area 181-60 within the winter boundary line.

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1S0123.

visory Announcement web site: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</u> .
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Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	784-3206
Troll Hotline	225-6870			747-8765	465-8765			

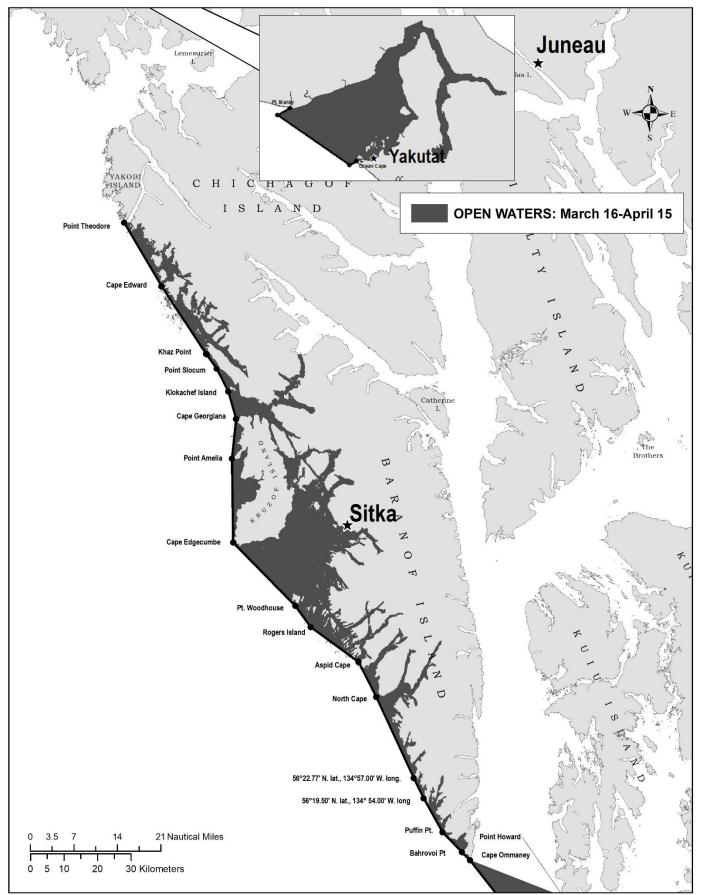


Figure 1.-Winter Troll Fishery open waters, Northern and Central Outside (March 16-April 15).

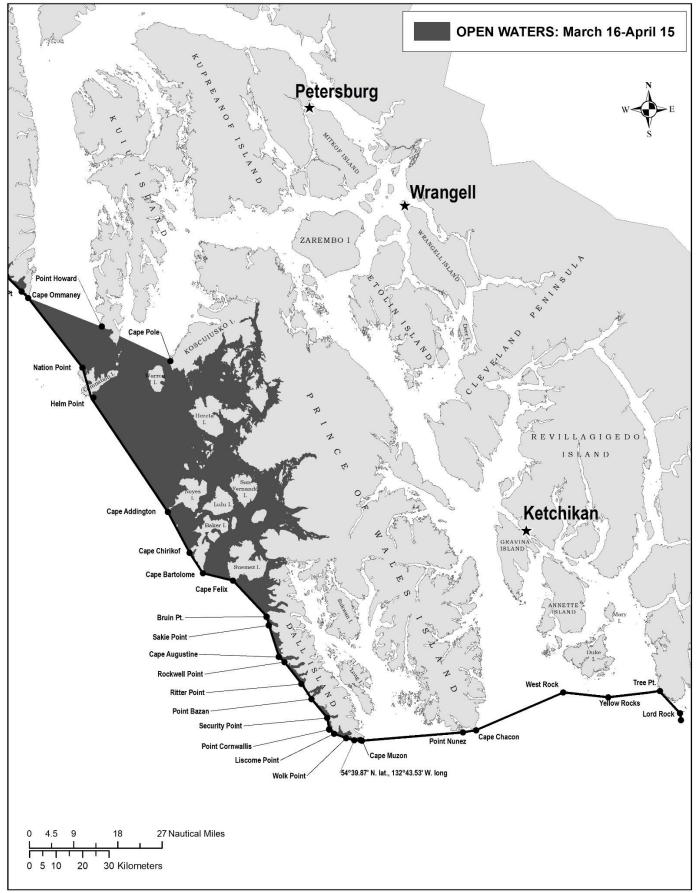


Figure 2.-Winter Troll Fishery open waters, Southern Outside (March 16-April 15).