



## Advisory Announcement

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### 2023 NEETS BAY TERMINAL HARVEST AREA FISHERIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The following information details the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA) Neets Bay Terminal Harvest Area (THA) commercial fishing open waters and fishing schedules for the 2023 season.

SSRAA is forecasting total runs of 792,000 summer chum, 4,800 Chinook, 80,300 coho, and 65,000 fall chum salmon to the Neets Bay THA.

The Neets Bay THA (101-95) consists of those waters east of the longitude of the easternmost tip of Bug Island at 131°39.14' W long (Bug Island line). Waters at the head of the bay east of 131°29.86' W long will be closed until the barrier net is in place; at that time, waters at the head of the bay east of the barrier net will be closed. The Neets Bay THA will be expanded on July 1 to Chin Point at 131°42.10' W long (Chin Point Line) for **troll gear only**. Chinook salmon may **NOT** be retained in this expanded area. A map of Neets Bay including the THA boundaries and fishery lines are included in Figure 1.

#### Troll Fishery

Salmon may be taken in the Neets Bay THA by troll gear from 12:01 a.m., Thursday, June 15, 2023, until closed by emergency order as follows:

- from 12:01 a.m., Thursday, June 15, to 11:59 p.m., Friday, June 30, **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 1, to 12:00 noon, Saturday, July 15, **east of the Chin Point line;**
- 12:00 noon, Saturday, July 15, until closed by emergency order, east of the **Chin Point line and west of the Bug Island line.**

#### Net Fisheries

From 12:00 noon, Saturday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 6, 2023, salmon may be taken in the Neets Bay THA by drift gillnet and purse seine gear as follows:

##### Drift Gillnet

- 12:00 noon, Saturday, June 17, to 12:00 noon, Sunday, June 18 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 21, to 12:00 noon, Thursday, June 22 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Sunday, June 25, to 12:00 noon, Monday, June 26 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Thursday, June 29, to 12:00 noon, Friday, June 30 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Monday, July 3, to 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 4 **east of the Mid-bay line that extends from a point on the northern shore of Neets Bay at 55°47.62' N lat, 131°34.50' W long to a point on the southern shore of Neets Bay at 55°46.83' N lat, 131°34.36' W long;**

##### Purse Seine

- 12:00 noon, Monday, June 19, to 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 20 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Friday, June 23, to 12:00 noon, Saturday, June 24 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27, to 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 28 **east of the Bug Island line;**
- 12:00 noon, Saturday, July 1, to 12:00 noon, Sunday, July 2 **east of the Bug Island line;**

12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 5, to 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 6 east of the Mid-bay line that extends from a point on the northern shore of Neets Bay at 55°47.62' N lat, 131°34.50' W long to a point on the southern shore of Neets Bay at 55°46.83' N lat, 131°34.36' W long.

**All Commercial Fisheries**

The Neets Bay THA will close to the harvest of salmon by drift gillnet and purse seine gear at 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 6, for troller access, cost recovery fishing, and broodstock collection. It is unlikely that additional net gear fisheries will occur in 2023, however, if additional openings are warranted, they will be announced by advisory announcement.

Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions for Neets Bay THA: Purse seine and drift gillnet fishermen may retain all Chinook salmon harvested within the Neets Bay THA from 12:00 noon, Saturday, June 17, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, July 6, 2023. Chinook salmon of any size harvested by purse seine or drift gillnet gear may be sold. Troll fisherman may retain and sell Chinook salmon greater than 28 inches only from those waters east of the Bug Island line. During the first summer troll Chinook salmon retention period, retention and possession of Chinook salmon in the THA is prohibited between the longitude of Chin Point and the Bug Island lines. Trollers may not retain or possess Chinook salmon if fishing the waters between the Chin Point and Bug Island lines but may transit through those waters to offload Chinook salmon harvest if gear is not deployed.

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1E0623.

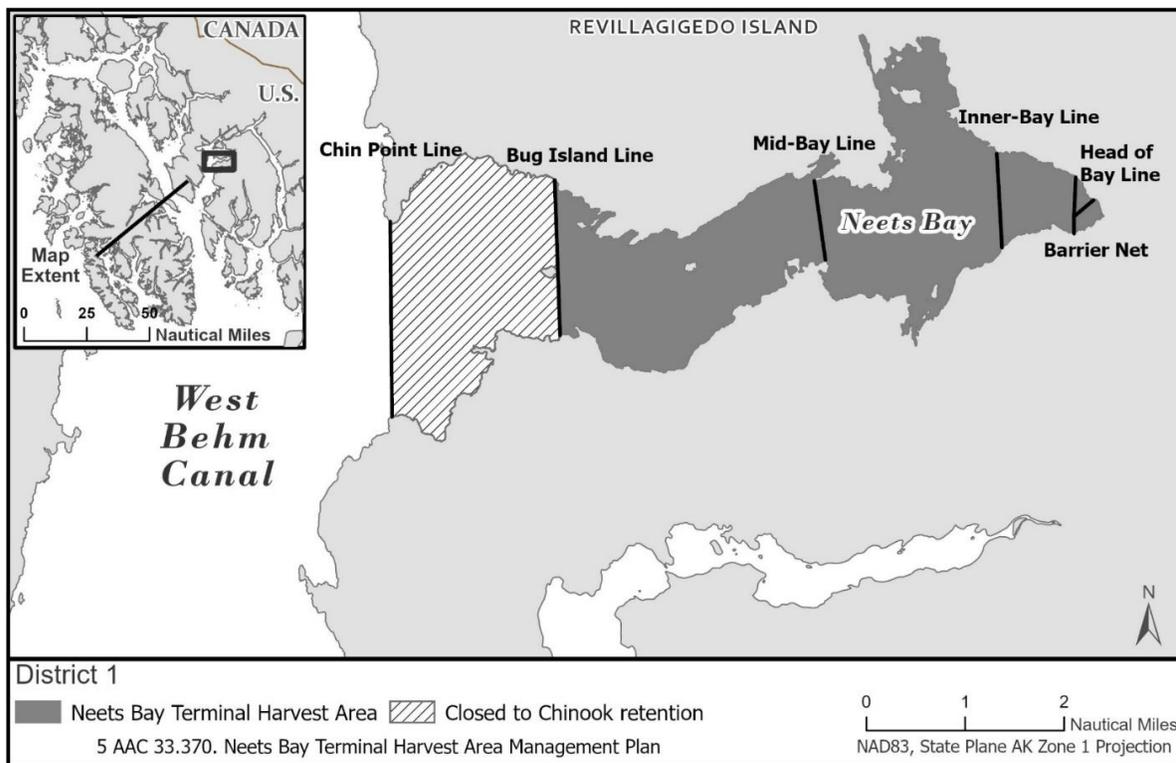


Figure 1. Map of Neets Bay THA.

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

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