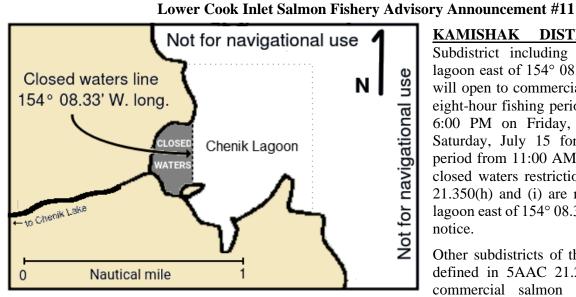
Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Homer Area Office 3298 Douglas Place Homer, AK 99603-7942

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: Thurs, July 13, 2023 *Time:* 2:00 PM



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

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KAMISHAK DISTRICT: The Chenik Subdistrict including waters of the Chenik lagoon east of 154° 08.33' W. long. (Figure 1) will open to commercial salmon harvest for an eight-hour fishing period from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM on Friday, July 14, and also on Saturday, July 15 for an eight-hour fishing period from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM. General closed waters restrictions (5AAC 39.290) and 21.350(h) and (i) are rescinded in the Chenik lagoon east of 154° 08.33' W. long. until further notice.

Other subdistricts of the Kamishak District as defined in 5AAC 21.299(e), remain open to commercial salmon harvest excluding the McNeil River Subdistrict, the Paint River Subdistrict, and the Kirschner Lake special

Figure 1.- Chenik Lagoon, west of 154° 08.33' W. longitude is closed.

harvest area (SHA). Fishing periods (excluding the Chenik Subdistrict) are 7-days per week, 24-hours per day. An aerial survey of the Chenik lagoon on Saturday, July 8 documented a minimum of 5,000 sockeye salmon in the Chenik lagoon. Video monitoring of salmon passage into Chenik Lake began on June 15. To date, 286 sockeye salmon have been documented entering Chenik Lake. Escapement monitoring into Chenik Lake is ongoing in real-time. Fishing opportunity may be adjusted on short notice based on this.

<u>OUTER DISTRICT</u>: Effective at 6:00 AM Saturday, July 15 waters of the East Nuka Subdistrict will open to commercial purse seine salmon harvest on a schedule of daily 16-hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Regulatory closed waters (5AAC 21.350(f)(12)) that apply to Delight Lake and Desire Lake are suspended until further notice. The Delight Lake freshwater lagoon, and the channel draining the freshwater lagoon remain closed to commercial salmon fishing. Fishing is permitted up to the fresh water of Desire Lake creek. 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, (5AAC39.975(a)(26)). An aerial survey of Delight Lake conducted earlier today, documented 5,190 sockeye salmon in that lake. This is within the aerial survey based sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 5,100 – 10,600 fish. An aerial survey of Desire Lake conducted today documented 13,010 fish. This is above the Desire Lake SEG of 4,800 – 11,900 fish.

The next scheduled commercial salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, July 14.

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: <u>https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2020_2022_cf_cook_inlet_salmon.pdf</u> This website may also be accessed by scanning the QR code at right.

