



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: Thu., Aug. 3, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM

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Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery Announcement #19

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Personal Use: Beginning at 6:00 AM on Thursday, August 17, the **Kachemak Bay Personal Use Set Gillnet Fishery** will open on a schedule of 48-hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM Mondays to 6:00 AM Wednesdays and from 6:00 AM Thursdays to 6:00 AM Saturdays until the guideline harvest range of 1,000 – 2,000 coho salmon is achieved or the season closes by regulation at 6:00 AM Wednesday, September 13. Personal Use fishing outside of these fishing periods is prohibited. The fishery may close by emergency order if the guideline harvest range is reached before the regulatory close of the season. The annual possession limit is 25 salmon for the head of a household and 10 salmon for each additional dependent. Daily reporting of harvest is requested.

Participants in this fishery must be Alaska residents, have a current sport fishing license, and also have a permit for this specific fishery. As last year, these permits are available through the ADF&G online store at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store>. Participants in this fishery are requested to report daily catches to the Homer ADF&G office at 235-8191, or 235-1738 during evenings and weekends. Participants can also report their harvest through the online reporting tool outlined in the permit. **Permit holders are required to remain on site while set gillnet gear is in operation.** Unattended gear may be confiscated. Persons who are not residents of Alaska may not assist in the operation of personal use fishing gear and may not handle personal use caught fish at the fishing site. A person may not possess salmon offsite that have been harvested under a personal use salmon fishing permit unless both tips of the tail fin have been removed (Figure 1). Personal use set gillnets may not exceed 35 fathoms in length. Further regulations that define this fishery (5 AAC 77.549) may be found on page 163 of the 2022-2023 Subsistence and Personal Use Statewide Fisheries Regulations. Regulations that define legal personal use fishing gear may be found in 5AAC 77.010 on page 146 of this book. Waters closed to personal use fishing are listed in 5 AAC 77.549(b) as well as 5AAC 21.350(d) (1)-(3), (h) & (i) and include waters at the head of Kachemak Bay northeast of a line from Swift Creek to Chugachik Island, all waters of China Poot Bay inshore of the HEA powerlines, waters of Sadie Cove south of 59° 30' N. lat. as well as any bay or estuary less than 300 feet in width at mean lower low tide as well as within 500 yards of the terminus of streams and rivers (Figure 2). Further restrictions may be found in the 5AAC 21.350 Closed Waters section of the commercial fishing regulations. Fishing is also prohibited in the Mud Bay area and in the area of the Homer Spit near the fishing lagoon and the Homer Harbor (Figure 3).

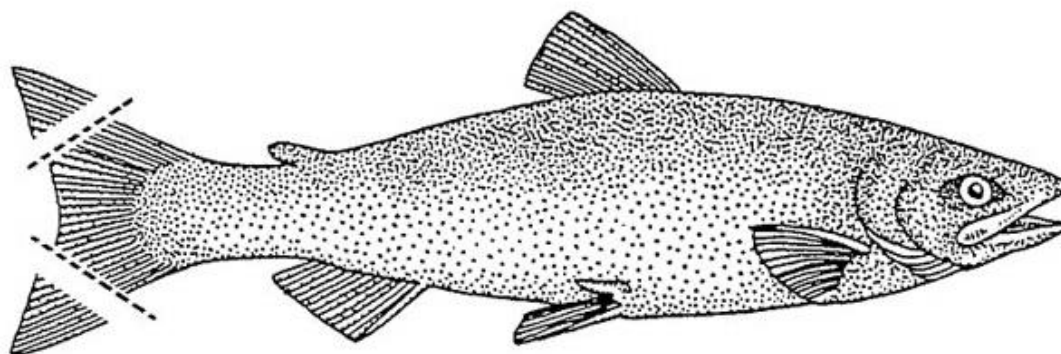


Figure 1.- All salmon taken under the authority of a personal use permit must have both lobes of tail (caudal) fin removed before the fish is concealed from plain view or transported from the fishing site, and harvest must be recorded on the permit.

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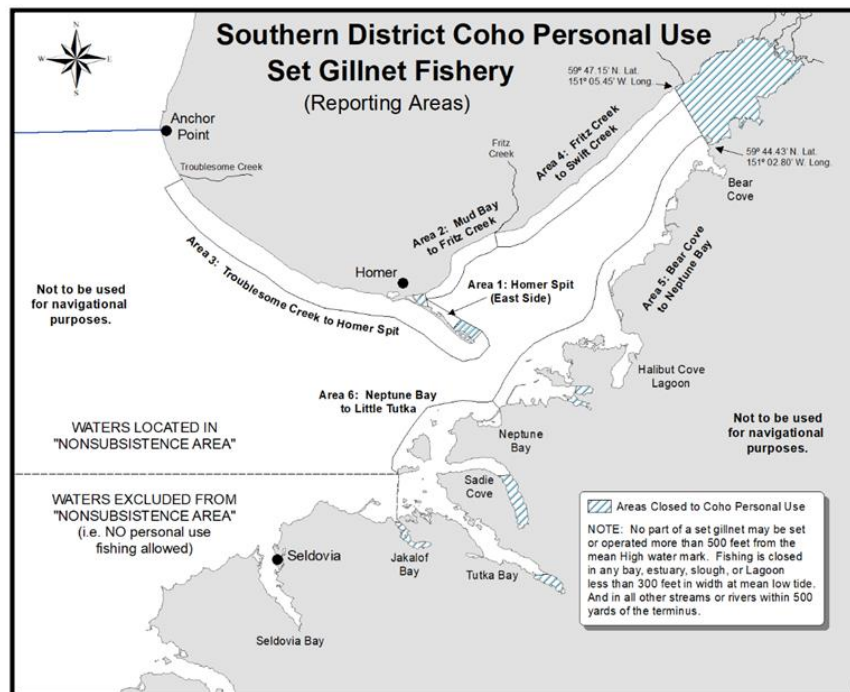


Figure 2.- Map showing general Southern District coho personal use set gillnet fishery area from Troublesome Creek to Jakolof Bay.

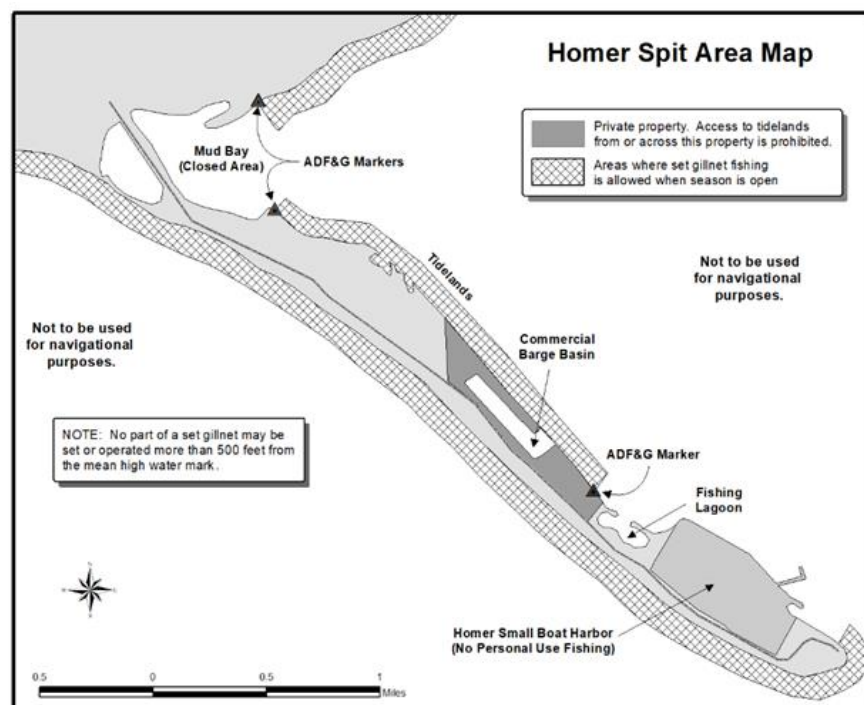


Figure 3.- Map showing areas near the Homer Spit where harvest is permitted in the Kachemak Bay Personal Use Set Gillnet Fishery.