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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 10, 2023

SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 13, through 12:00 noon, Friday, August 18, 2023,** in those waters south of 54°54.50′ N lat (approximately 1.0 nautical mile [nmi] south of Foggy Point), with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals; will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point at 54°50.03′ N lat.

District 6: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 13, through 12:00 noon, Friday, August 18, 2023, with the following restriction:

Section 6-D: will be closed from 12:01 p.m., through 8:00 p.m., Sunday, August 13, 2023. Closures later in the week will be dependent upon the purse seine fishery in Section 6-D.

District 8: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 13, through 12:00 noon, Friday, August 18, 2023, with the following restrictions:

<u>Frederick Sound</u>: will be closed south and west of a line from a point 1.0 nmi off the Kupreanof Island shoreline on the District 10 boundary at 56°57.27′ N lat, 132°58.96′ W long to Sukoi Island Light at 56°53.73′ N lat, 132°56.64′ W long to Frederick Point at 56°47.55′ N lat, 132°49.27′ W long;

Stikine River: will be closed north and west of a line from Babbler Point at 56°29.08′ N lat, 132°17.37′ W long to Hour Point at 56°27.73′ N lat, 132°16.79′ W long, north and east of a line from Point Highfield at 56°29.34′ N lat, 132°23.36′ W long to the southern end of Liesnoi Island at 56°29.83′ N lat, 132°29.19′ W long to the southern end of Greys Island at 56°30.67′ N lat, 132°33.05′ W long to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough at 56°31.83′ N lat, 132°40.17′ W long to the nearest point on Mitkof Island at 56°31.88′ N lat, 132°40.66′ W long, and south and east of a line from the prominent point on Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island at 56°40.77′ N lat, 132°39.28′ W long to the western end of Coney Island at 56°41.62′ N lat, 132°38.92′ W long to a point 800 yards north of Japanese Creek on the mainland shore at 56°46.62′ N lat, 132°37.11′ W long.

Section 11-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Monday, August 14, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 17, 2023, with the following restrictions:

<u>Limestone Inlet</u>: will be closed east of a line from a point on the north shore at 58°02.04′ N lat, 133°59.60′ W long to a point on the south shore at 58°01.75′ N lat, 133°59.40′ W long (outside markers);

<u>Port Snettisham</u>: will be closed east of a line from Sharp Point at 58°00.66' N lat, 133°47.15' W long to Sentinel Point at 57°59.74' N lat, 133°45.62' W long.

Section 11-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 13, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 17, 2023.

Section 15-A: will be open in those waters of Chilkoot Inlet north of the latitude of Mud Bay Point at 59°09.05′ N lat, **from 12:01 p.m.**, **Sunday**, **August 13**, **through 12:00 noon**, **Friday**, **August 18**, **2023**, with the following restriction:

<u>Lutak Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from White Rock at 59°18.05′ N lat, 135°31.33′ W long to a point at 59°18.73′ N lat, 135°30.16′ W long.

Section 15-A: will be open south of the latitude of Mud Bay Point at 59°09.05′ N lat, from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 13, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 16, 2023, with the following restriction:

Chilkat Inlet: will be closed north of a line from Glacier Point at 59°06.02′ N lat, 135°22.97′ W long to the westernmost tip of Twin Coves at 59°06.58′ N lat, 135°21.70′ W long.

Section 15-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Monday, August 14, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 17, 2023.

Section 15-C: will remain open until further notice in the outer waters of the Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA) east of 135°09.57′ W long within 1.0 nmi of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Lance Point at 58°43.95′ N lat and north of the latitude of a regulatory marker at 58°36.96′ N lat, with the following restriction:

William Henry Bay: will be closed south of 58°42.93′ N lat.

Section 15-C: the Boat Harbor THA will remain open until further notice in the waters of Boat Harbor west of 135°09.57′ W long, with no restrictions.

Due to the Golden North Salmon Derby, the Sections 11-B and 15-C gillnet openings will be delayed until Monday, August 14.

To date, 337 sockeye salmon have been counted at the Hugh Smith Lake weir. The current weir count projects a total escapement of 533 sockeye salmon, well below the optimal escapement goal range of 8,000–18,000 sockeye salmon. The department will continue to monitor the sockeye salmon escapement and may take management action through statistical week 33.

The Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery is being managed according to the District 1 Pink Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 33.360). The District 1 purse seine fishery is expected to receive at least three days of fishing time during statistical week 33. Therefore, the Section 1-B drift gillnet fishery will be given five days of fishing time.

Section 6-D is closed after the first Saturday in August and before the first Sunday in September except as provided in the Section 6-D Pink Salmon Management Plan (5 AAC 33.359). This regulation opens Section 6-D to the drift gillnet fishery when the purse seine fishery is opened in that area. A separate advisory announcement may be necessitated in the event that 6-D is opened, and notice will likely be very short.

As a reminder, District 6 sections were revised during the 2022 Southeast Alaska Finfish and Shellfish Board of Fisheries meeting. Section 6-D has been amended to only include the area east of Section 6-C commonly referred to as the "Screen Islands" area. The remainder of former Section 6-D, in Stikine Strait and south of a line drawn between Point Stanhope and Luck Point to the southern district boundary, has been designated as a new section, Section 6-E. Section 6-E is a purse seine only area. A map of this area can be viewed online at:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon#maps.

Fishermen and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.

All Chinook salmon harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. Chinook salmon less than 28 inches in length and those of Alaska hatchery origin will not be counted against Southeast Alaska's all gear harvest limit of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Therefore, fishermen and tenders are requested to keep Chinook salmon harvested in THAs separate from those harvested in traditional fishing areas. Separating these harvests will allow for better accounting of harvests and assist in sampling the harvests to identify Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon.

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1S6223.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates Statistical Week 32 (August 6 through August 12) Preliminary Estimates Compiled August 10, 2023

NUMBER OF SALMON

THE MEDICAL STEELINGTY								
								Days
District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Open
District 1	0	200	100	8,000	10,000	18,300	10	5
District 6	0	4,500	3,000	19,000	14,000	40,500	40	5
District 8	40	350	580	10,000	26,000	36,970	25	5
District 11	25	6,000	1,000	12,000	17,000	36,025	30	4
District 15	10	30,000	100	25,000	40,000	95,110	57	5
Total	75	41,050	4,780	74,000	107,000	226,905		

FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
District 1	0	20	10	800	1,000	1,830
District 6	0	113	75	475	350	1,013
District 8	2	14	23	400	1,040	1,479
District 11	1	200	33	400	567	1,201
District 15	0	526	2	439	702	1,669

Nakat Inlet THA harvest to date: 245,000 chum salmon.

Deep Inlet THA harvest to date: 1,400 Chinook and 148,500 chum salmon.

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

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