



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: October 4, 2023

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT WINTER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The **2023/2024 Southeast Alaska/Yakutat commercial winter troll fishery will open by regulation at 12:01 a.m., Wednesday, October 11, 2023.** The fishery will continue through March 15, 2024, as amended by emergency order, or until a total of 45,000 non-Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon are harvested (5 AAC 29.070[a][1] and 5 AAC 29.080[a]). Permit holders are advised that a fishery management plan will not be published for the 2023/2024 winter troll season and questions should be directed to the troll management staff in Sitka.

During the 2022 BOF 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. Based on that direction, the department identified that harvest proportions of wild SEAK and TBR stocks seen in fisheries operating on the outside waters of Southeast Alaska continued to remain low due to the abundance of non-Alaska stocks prevalent in these areas and accordingly extended the winter troll fishery through April 15, 2023, in select outer coastal portions of the winter troll fishery area. During this fishing period, department staff collected both genetic stock identification (GSI) and coded wire tag (CWT) data to evaluate Chinook salmon stocks encountered during that time frame. The department will continue to monitor fishery data throughout the winter fishery and determine whether additional winter fishing opportunities will occur after March 15, 2024. The details of a potential extension of the fishery will be announced in a future advisory announcement.

The boundary line for the 2023/2024 winter troll fishery is modified by emergency order, with the addition of coordinates for nearest headlands that are undefined in regulation. Permit holders are advised that **coordinates are updated in this advisory announcement** from those provided in the 2022/2023 winter fishery announcement, to reflect regulatory location descriptions more accurately and to correspond with updates made in other salmon fishery regulations. The winter troll fishery coordinates are described as follows under 5 AAC 29.020(b):

The winter fishery is confined to an area east of a line across Yakutat Bay from the westernmost tip of **Point Manby** (59°41.68' N lat, 140°19.64' W long) to 59°40.02' N lat, 140°24.36' W long, to 59°31.25' N lat, 139°53.69' W long to **Ocean Cape** (59°32.11' N lat, 139°51.32' W long) and a line from the southernmost tip of **Cape Spencer** (58°12.63' N lat, 136°39.85' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Yakobi Rock** (58°05.17' N lat, 136°33.82' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Cape Cross** (57°54.70' N lat, 136°33.59' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Point Theodore** (57°50.75' N lat, 136°27.57' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Cape Edward** (57°40.75' N lat, 136°15.51' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Khaz Point** (57°30.13' N lat, 136°01.44' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Point Slocum** (57°27.86' N lat, 135°58.06' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Klokachef Island** (57°24.20' N lat, 135°54.40' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Cape Georgiana** (57°19.75' N lat, 135°51.62' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Point Amelia** (57°13.40' N lat, 135°52.67' W long) to **Cape Edgecumbe** (56°59.89' N lat, 135°51.48' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Point Woodhouse** (56°50.05' N lat, 135°32.56' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Rogers Island** (56°46.67' N lat, 135°27.99' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Aspid Cape** (56°41.14' N lat, 135°13.80' W long) to the southernmost tip of **North Cape** (56°35.68' N lat, 135°08.37' W long) to 56°22.77' N lat, 134°57.00' W long, to 56°19.50' N lat, 134°54.00' W long to the southwesternmost tip of **Puffin Point** (56°14.12' N lat, 134°48.40' W long) to the northwesternmost tip of **Bobrovoi Point** (56°11.00' N lat, 134°42.55' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Cape Ommaney** (56°09.83' N lat, 134°40.42' W long) to **Nation Point** (55°55.66' N lat, 134°20.10' W long) to **Helm Point** (55°49.42' N lat, 134°16.95' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Cape Addington** (55°26.08' N lat, 133°49.30' W

long) to the westernmost tip of **Cape Chirikof** (55°18.10' N lat, 133°41.40' W long) to **Cape Bartolome Light** (55°13.84' N lat, 133°36.94' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Cape Felix** (55°12.57' N lat, 133°26.02' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Bruin Point** (55°05.08' N lat, 133°14.24' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Sakie Point** (55°03.39' N lat, 133°13.45' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Cape Augustine** (54°57.02' N lat, 133°09.95' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Rockwell Point** (54°55.90' N lat, 133°07.99' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Ritter Point** (54°51.43' N lat, 133°02.07' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Point Bazan** (54°48.32' N lat, 132°58.56' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Security Point** (54°44.43' N lat, 132°53.17' W long) to **Point Cornwallis** (54°42.10' N lat, 132°52.49' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Liscome Point** (54°41.28' N lat, 132°50.52' W long) to the westernmost tip of **Wolk Point** (54°40.32' N lat, 132°46.73' W long) to 54°39.87' N lat, 132°43.53' W long, to **Cape Muzon Light** (54°39.89' N lat, 132°41.57' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Point Nunez** (54°41.04' N lat, 132°05.61' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Cape Chacon** (54°41.40' N lat, 132°01.02' W long) to the southernmost tip of **West Rock** (54°48.70' N lat, 131°29.87' W long) to the southernmost tip of **Yellow Rocks** (54°47.32' N lat, 131°14.03' W long) to **Tree Point** (54°48.17' N lat, 130°56.07' W long) to **Lord Rock Light** (54°43.55' N lat, 130°49.22' W long) to a point on the **International Boundary** at 130°49.00' W long.

CLOSED WATERS

Closed waters in the winter troll fishery are specified in 5 AAC 29.080(b). The winter troll fishery is exempted from the closed waters provisions of 5 AAC 29.150 under section (a)(1) and waters within 500 yards of the terminus of any salmon stream are open to trolling, except as specified in 5 AAC 29.080(b). The following areas are closed to salmon trolling during the winter troll fishery as provided in 5 AAC 29.080(b) and by emergency order in accordance with the *Northern Southeast Alaska Chinook Salmon Stock Status and Action Plan, 2022*:

- District 1:** waters of Behm Canal in Section 1-D between a line from Nose Point at 55°48.32' N lat, 131°42.53' W long to Snail Point at 55°49.47' N lat, 131°46.25' W long and a line from Cactus Point at 55°33.29' N lat, 130°56.59' W long to Point Eva at 55°33.61' N lat, 130°52.60' W long. *Note- coordinates have been added to place names by emergency order.
- District 8:** waters west of the Stikine River inside 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, along the shore of Wrangell Island to Point Highfield at 56°29.34' N lat, 132°23.36' W long to the southernmost tip of Liesnoi Island at 56°29.83' N lat, 132°29.19' W long to the southernmost tip 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 of Mitkof Island at 56°31.88' N lat, 132°40.66' W long, to the prominent point of 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.
*Note- coordinates have been added to places names and coordinates for the northwestern boundary of the closure area has been modified by emergency order.
- District 11:** waters in Section 11-A east of a line from Outer Point at 58°17.86' N lat, 134°41.18' W long to Point Louisa at 58°22.40' N lat, 134°43.63' W long and north and west of a line from Salisbury Point at 58°12.30' N lat, 134°13.15' W long to Point Tantallon at 58°11.72' N lat, 134°15.55' W long (including the waters of Gastineau Channel).
*Note- coordinates have been added to place names by emergency order.
- District 15:**
 - Section 15-A:** waters north of the latitude of Sherman Rock at 58°51.00' N lat, are closed by emergency order **through December 31, 2023**.
 - Section 15-B:** waters of Berners Bay east of a line from Point St. Mary at 58°43.93' N lat, 135°01.43' W long to Point Bridget at 58°40.73' N lat, 134°59.34' W long.

TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS

As previously announced, the Anita Bay and Nakat Inlet terminal harvest areas (THA) will continue to be open to troll gear through November 10 according to management plans and advisory announcements specific to each area. Following the closure of the THAs, these waters remain open to trolling as part of the traditional winter troll fishery.

LANDING REQUIREMENTS

Fish tickets must be submitted to the nearest Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) office not later than 7 days after the fish are offloaded from the vessel. Fish tickets may be mailed directly to troll management staff at the Sitka ADF&G office. All salmon harvested in the summer troll fishery must be offloaded prior to participating in the winter troll fishery. In addition to the reporting requirements specified in 5 AAC 39.130, trollers and processors are required to record a 5-digit statistical area for salmon and the corresponding 6-digit statistical area for groundfish bycatch reported on fish tickets, as well as start and end date fished and date of landing. If multiple statistical areas were fished, the percentage of harvest by area should be included in the statistical area worksheet.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S8823.

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

<i>Office</i>	<i>Ketchikan</i>	<i>Petersburg</i>	<i>Sitka</i>	<i>Juneau</i>	<i>Haines</i>	<i>Hoonah</i>	<i>Yakutat</i>
<i>ADF&G</i>	225-5195	772-3801	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
<i>AWT</i>	225-5111	772-3983	747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	
<i>Troll Hotline</i>	225-6870		747-8765	465-8765			