### **Division of Commercial Fisheries** Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

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## Alaska Department of Fish and Game

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## **Advisory Announcement**

For Immediate Release: August 4, 2025

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# UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 27 EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2-F-H-28-25

Commercial salmon fishing with set gillnets will be open in the Kenai, Kasilof, and East Foreland sections of the Upper Subdistrict on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 as follows:

- the Ninilchik (244-21) and Cohoe (244-22) statistical areas are open from 9:58 a.m.until 5:58 p.m.
- the South K-beach (244-31) and the North K-beach (244-32) statistical areas are open from 10:58 a.m.until 6:58 p.m.
- the Salamantof (244-41) and the East Foreland (244-42) statistical areas are open from 11:58 a.m.until 7:58 p.m.

During these commercial fishing periods, each setnet **permit holder** may use up to **one** set gillnet that is not more than 35 fathoms in length and 29 meshes in depth.

Any king salmon harvest in the set gillnet commercial fishery is required to be delivered to a shore-based or floating processor. Personal use or homepack of king salmon is prohibited. Salmon caught by a CFEC permit holder must be retained, and each CFEC permit holder must report the number of salmon caught on an ADF&G fish ticket, in this fishery "caught" means brought on board a vessel.

This commercial period is in compliance with the *Kenai River Late-run Stock of Concern Management Plan* (5 AAC 21.382 (g)) which states, from July 28 through August 15, when the inseason projection of king salmon 75 cm mid eye to tail fork and longer is greater than 14,250 fish, including harvest and projection error, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery may be opened. As of August 2, the projection of large Kenai River late-run king salmon is 16,807 using mean run timing and ranges between 14,880 and 19,062 from 3-days early to 3-days late run timing including anticipated harvest and projection error.

Through August 2, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kasilof River was 1,124,031 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 1.36 million sockeye salmon which exceeds the biological escapement goal of 140,000–320,000 sockeye salmon. Through August 2, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kenai River was 3,278,892 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is

approximately 2.9 million sockeye salmon which exceeds the inriver run goal of 1.2-1.6 million sockeye salmon. The fishing time provided in this announcement is intended to harvest sockeye salmon returning to the Kenai and Kasilof rivers while minimizing harvest of Kenai River king salmon.

General information for <u>all</u> UCI commercial fisheries and specifics about harvest levels, required permits, reporting requirements, or the registration processes, can be obtained by calling the Soldotna ADF&G staff at 907-262-9368, and also found at the ADF&G UCI commercial fisheries web site. <a href="https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareauci.main">https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareauci.main</a>