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

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

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# **Advisory Announcement**

For Immediate Release: August 6, 2025

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## SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK) commercial troll fishery will remain open until further notice. The department will not implement a mid-August troll closure for coho salmon management this season. Based on the second coho salmon run strength assessment, which evaluates catch rates, effort, projected catches, and early escapement data, the department has determined that a troll closure is not necessary at this time for coho salmon conservation or allocation. The department will continue to closely monitor abundance indicators as the season progresses and will take appropriate action should the run fail to develop as projected.

The waters of frequent high Chinook salmon abundance (5 AAC 29.025), as modified by emergency order and described in the July 3, 2025, summer troll fishery advisory announcement, remain closed as well as those waters identified in 5 AAC 29.150. Modifications to area descriptions under emergency order authority for 5 AAC 29.100 remain in effect in Districts 1, 15, and 181, as described in the summer troll fishery advisory announcement issued June 24, 2025.

#### **CHINOOK SALMON**

The Southeast Alaska/Yakutat commercial troll fishery will open for a second Chinook salmon retention period of the general summer season beginning at 12:01 a.m., Friday, August 8, 2025, to harvest approximately **9,000 treaty Chinook salmon that remain unharvested on the annual troll allocation**. With the remaining allocation insufficient to allow for a competitive second retention period, the department will alternatively open a Limited Harvest Fishery (LHF) to harvest the remaining annual troll allocation under the new provisions of 5 AAC 29.100(c)(2)(D) adopted during the 2025 SEAK Board of Fisheries meeting.

The retention period will continue for 10 days, and close at 11:59 p.m., Sunday, August 17, 2025. Based on the number of Chinook salmon remaining on the annual commercial troll allocation and the number of permits registered to participate, a total of 17 Chinook salmon per registered permit will be allocated during the 10-day fishery.

Provisions of a limited harvest fishery under 5 AAC 29.100(c)(2)(D) are as follows:

- (i) a limited harvest fishery will open from 12:01 a.m., August 8, through 11:59 p.m., August 17, 2025;
- (ii) the maximum allowable harvest during the limited harvest fishery is 17 Chinook salmon per registered permit;
- (iii) Chinook salmon retained during a limited harvest fishery must be kept separate from other salmon on board the vessel;
- (iv) both commercially sold Chinook salmon and Chinook salmon retained for personal use during a limited harvest fishery count toward the harvest limit;
- (v) a copy of fish tickets documenting commercially sold Chinook salmon or Chinook salmon retained for personal use during a limited harvest fishery must be kept on board the vessel while operating gear in a limited harvest fishery and during transits to or from a port of landing;
- (vi) fish tickets must be made available to a local representative of the department upon request;
- (vii) after the closure of a limited harvest fishing period, all Chinook salmon must be offloaded from a vessel before that vessel may be used to resume fishing for other salmon species.
- (viii) the holder of a CFEC hand troll or power troll permit must have registered with the department by the deadline on August 1, in order to harvest Chinook salmon in a limited harvest fishery;

- (ix) a physical or electronic copy of the completed limited harvest fishery registration form that has been endorsed by department staff must be kept on board the vessel if Chinook salmon are retained in a limited harvest fishery and during transits to or from a port of landing when Chinook salmon taken in a limited harvest fishery are on board;
- (x) following a limited harvest fishery, if the department determines that the number of Chinook salmon remaining on the annual Chinook salmon harvest allocation is sufficient to provide for an additional limited harvest fishery, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reopen the troll fishery to the taking of Chinook salmon during a limited harvest fishery, subject to (i) (ix).
- (xi) multiple troll permit holders may be registered to retain Chinook salmon during a limited harvest fishery on board the same vessel under the following conditions:
  - a) All permits fished from the vessel during a trip must be registered under the same troll gear type; a hand troll permit holder may not harvest LHF Chinook salmon on board a registered power troll vessel and a power troll permit holder may not harvest LHF Chinook salmon on board a registered hand troll vessel, based on the provisions of 5 AAC 29.115(b).
  - b) Chinook salmon retained by multiple LHF permit holders on board the same vessel must be kept separated or marked in a manner to distinguish each permit holder's catch.
  - c) An individual with a CFEC limited entry power troll and hand troll permit qualifies only for a single LHF Chinook allocation.

### LANDING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

All Chinook salmon harvested during the limited harvest summer troll fishery must be offloaded from a vessel following the closure of the retention period and prior to resuming fishing for salmon from that vessel. Troll fish tickets shall be submitted to an ADF&G office not later than 7 days after the fish are offloaded from the vessel.

#### TERMINAL HARVEST AREAS

Chinook salmon 28 inches and greater may be retained in select areas as outlined in terminal harvest area (THA) advisory announcements issued for the following areas, unless closed by emergency order:

The Anita Bay THA (107-35) will be open to troll gear through November 10 for retention of all salmon species, including Chinook salmon, and will follow the gear rotational schedule announced in the Anita Bay advisory announcement issued April 16 (5 AAC 33.383). Provisions of the LHF do not apply to Chinook salmon retained in the Anita Bay THA during the LHF period.

The Herring Bay Troll THA (101-40) will be open to troll gear for retention of all salmon species, including Chinook salmon, through August 30 (5 AAC 33.369). Provisions of the LHF do not apply to Chinook salmon retained in the Herring Bay THA during the LHF period. Beginning August 31, trollers may retain coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon in these waters as part of the general summer troll season, with harvest reported on fish tickets using statistical area 101-44 or 101-45.

The Nakat Inlet (101-10), Kendrick Bay (102-15), Port Armstrong (109-11), Mist Cove (109-13), Hidden Falls (112-22) and Crawfish Inlet (113-33) THAs are open to Chinook salmon retention under provisions of the LHF and will close to retention of Chinook salmon following the LHF fishing period.

Thomas Bay THA (110-12) will be open to common property commercial troll fisheries for all salmon species, including Chinook salmon, from 12:01 a.m., August 8, through 11:59 p.m., August 9, 2025. Beginning 12:00 a.m., August 10, the waters of the Thomas Bay THA will remain open as part of the traditional summer troll fishery for all salmon species, with Chinook salmon retention permitted only through 11:59 p.m., August 17, as defined under provisions of the LHF.

The Deep Inlet THA (113-38) will be open to common property commercial troll fisheries for all salmon species, including Chinook salmon, from 12:01 a.m. through 11:59 p.m., August 9, 2025. Provisions of the LHF do not apply to Chinook salmon retained in the Deep Inlet THA during the LHF period. Beginning August 10, the Deep Inlet THA will be closed until further notice, as announced in the Deep Inlet advisory announcement issued April 15.

## GROUNDFISH BYCATCH IN TROLL FISHERY

Permit holders are reminded that lingcod bycatch in the salmon troll fishery closed for the remainder of the year in the Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section on July 31, 2025.

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1S5325.

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

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