



## Advisory Announcement

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**CONTACT: Glenn Hollowell**

**Finfish Management Biologist  
(907) 235-8191**

### 2025 Lower Cook Inlet Commercial Salmon Fishery Season Summary

The 2025 Lower Cook Inlet Area commercial salmon harvest was 1.0 million fish. The harvest was composed of 200 Chinook, 443,000 sockeye, 2,000 coho, 535,000 pink, and 25,000 chum salmon (Table 1), of which 890,000 (89%) were commercial harvest and 113,000 (11%) were hatchery cost recovery. Total commercial common property harvest value was estimated to be \$3.7 million. In 2025, the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) cost recovery goal of \$2.6 million was not attained with approximately \$750,000 achieved. All data in this summary are preliminary.

#### ***Southern District***

The 2025 preseason commercial harvest forecast for the Southern District was 80,000 sockeye and 82,100 pink salmon with an additional 10,900 hatchery-produced sockeye and 79,500 hatchery pink salmon available in special harvest areas (SHAs). The purse seine harvest was 45 Chinook, 256,746 sockeye, 259 coho, 1,333 pink, and 283 chum salmon with 11 permit holders reporting deliveries. This compares to previous 10-year average harvests of 95 Chinook, 65,360 sockeye, 1,224 coho, 176,023 pink, and 947 chum salmon.

The 2025 set gillnet harvest was 118 Chinook, 33,913 sockeye, 598 coho, 1,535 pink, and 3,779 chum salmon with 16 permits reporting deliveries. The previous 10-year average harvests for this gear type were 357 Chinook, 23,129 sockeye, 2,382 coho, 21,077 pink, and 4,049 chum salmon.

Southern District pink salmon escapement was 39,494 fish and below the sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 50,000–110,000. Chum salmon escapement in the Southern District was 8,301 fish and above the SEG range of 1,500–5,000 fish.

#### ***Outer District***

The 2025 preseason commercial harvest forecast for the Outer District was 26,800 sockeye, 920,100 pink, and 12,800 chum salmon. The harvest from the ten permit holders that delivered was 30 Chinook, 6,444 sockeye, 727 coho, 458,376 pink, and 17,605 chum salmon. This harvest compares to previous 10-year average harvests of 36 Chinook, 11,727 sockeye, 382 coho, 1.1 million pink, and 48,102 chum salmon.

Pink salmon escapement to Outer District index streams of 237,259 was above the Outer District SEG of 105,000–235,000 fish. Chum salmon escapement in the Outer District of 34,908 fish was above the 17,500–32,000 fish SEG. The Desire Lake sockeye salmon escapement of 7,520 was within the 4,800–11,900 SEG range. Delight Lake sockeye salmon escapement was 2,310 and below the 5,100–10,600 SEG range.

#### ***Kamishak Bay District***

The 2025 preseason commercial harvest forecast for the Kamishak Bay District was 50,000 sockeye, 47,800 pink, and 1,400 chum salmon. Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) forecasted a run of 27,700 sockeye salmon to the Kirschner Lake remote release site. The harvest from the three permit holders that delivered, was 54,939 sockeye, 91 coho, 49,733 pink, and 3,274 chum salmon. This harvest compares to previous 10-year average harvests of 41,825 sockeye, 1,321 coho, 47,553 pink, and 9,717 chum salmon. In addition, 33,570 sockeye salmon were harvested by CIAA from the Kirschner Lake SHA for cost recovery.

Pink salmon escapement to this district was 107,197 and within the 35,000–150,000 SEG range. Chum salmon escapement was 154,440 and above the 50,000–115,000 SEG range. Sockeye salmon escapement to Mikfik Lake was 3,746 and within its SEG range. Chenik Lake (14,315) and Amakdedori Creek (4,052) were above their respective SEG ranges for this species.

### ***Eastern District***

Due to small runs in the last 10 years, no wild stock sockeye or pink salmon were forecasted to be available for commercial harvest from the Eastern District in 2025. CIAA forecasted a total run of 83,600 sockeye salmon to Resurrection Bay release sites with 76,400 fish needed for broodstock and cost recovery. Total cost recovery harvest from this district was 10,934 sockeye salmon. An additional 1,762 sockeye and 224 coho salmon were donated to the public by CIAA. There was no commercial harvest effort in this district. The previous 10-year commercial harvest average for sockeye salmon is 4,298 fish. CIAA passed 12,000 sockeye salmon through the Bear Creek weir in 2025. However, 1,578 sockeye salmon were subsequently removed from Bear Lake for broodstock, leaving a final spawning escapement of 10,422 fish, which is above the SEG of 700–8,300. Hatchery runs of sockeye salmon to this district were below preseason anticipated levels. The only other index stock in the Eastern District is Aialik Lake sockeye salmon (5,700) which exceeded the SEG range (3,200–5,400).

Table 1. Lower Cook Inlet commercial salmon harvest based on preliminary fish ticket data, 2025.

District (or hatchery)	Permits	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
Southern District	11	45	256,746	259	1,333	283	258,666
Outer District	10	30	6,444	727	458,376	17,605	483,182
Eastern District	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kamishak Bay District	3	0	54,939	91	49,733	3,274	108,037
Purse seine preliminary total	11	75	318,129	1,077	509,442	21,162	849,885
Southern District	16	118	33,913	598	1,535	3,779	39,943
Set gillnet preliminary total	16	118	33,913	598	1,535	3,779	39,943
Commercial common property preliminary total		193	352,042	1,675	510,977	24,941	889,828
Hatchery cost recovery preliminary harvests							
Tutka Lagoon SHA		0	23,600	0	23,693	0	47,293
Hazel Lake SHA		0	0	0	0	0	0
China Poot SHA		0	20,766	0	0	0	20,766
Resurrection Bay SHA		4	10,934	0	0	0	10,938
Kirschner Lake SHA		0	33,570	0	309	0	33,879
Hatchery preliminary total		4	88,870	0	24,002	0	112,876
Hatchery donated fish		0	1,762	224	0	0	1,986
Commercial homepack		7	151	85	72	43	358
LCI preliminary total harvest		204	442,825	1,984	535,051	24,984	1,005,048