



## Advisory Announcement

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## 2026 SOUTHEAST ALASKA TROLL CHINOOK SALMON HARVEST ALLOCATION

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that under Chinook salmon management provisions of the 2019–2028 Pacific Salmon Treaty Agreement (treaty), the annual all-gear allowable catch limit for Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK) is 207,400 treaty Chinook salmon (non-Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon). This year's all-gear catch limit includes a 1% reduction that will serve as a buffer to avoid exceeding the all-gear limit and payback provisions within the treaty. The resulting preseason troll treaty harvest allocation for 2026 is **146,000 Chinook salmon**, which is 53,200 fish above the preseason limit available in 2025.

During the 2025 Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting held in Ketchikan, the *Allocation of King Salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area* (5 AAC 29.060) and the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055) were amended. Specific to the troll fishery, provisions modified the allocated proportions of the all-gear catch limit between troll and sport gear and removed regulatory language that directly transferred any underage or overage in the SEAK sport fishery to or from the commercial troll allocation of Chinook salmon. Following the subtraction of the net fisheries allocation from the annual all-gear Chinook salmon catch limit, the remaining all-gear allocation is divided between troll and sport gear at 77% for troll and 23% for sport.

Annual catch limits for the SEAK Chinook salmon fishery are now based on measures of Chinook abundance using the abundance index output from the Pacific Salmon Commission Chinook model. Use of this model for setting the SEAK catch limit began following decisions made by the Pacific Salmon Commission in January 2024 in accordance with Chapter 3 of the treaty.

The summer troll fishery harvest allocation is calculated by subtracting the sum of the treaty Chinook salmon harvested in the winter and spring troll fisheries from the annual troll treaty allocation. The winter fishery is managed to a seasonal guideline harvest level (GHL) of 45,000 treaty Chinook salmon and will close by emergency order on April 15, unless the GHL is reached prior to that date.

While there is no explicit guideline harvest level for Chinook salmon harvested in the spring, fisheries are managed to limit the harvest of treaty Chinook salmon; non-Alaska hatchery fish are counted towards the annual treaty harvest limit of Chinook salmon while most of the Alaska hatchery fish are not. With spring fisheries in progress through June 30, preliminary harvest estimates for treaty Chinook salmon in the spring fisheries will not be determined until late June.

The summer fishery will be managed to harvest 70% of the remaining fish on the annual troll allocation during the first summer Chinook salmon opening in July, with the remainder available for harvest in a second opening, which typically occurs in August. If the remainder of the annual troll allocation is not harvested during that second opening, and if the department determines that the remaining troll allocation is insufficient to allow for a competitive fishery, the commissioner may, by emergency order, reopen the troll fishery to the retention of Chinook salmon during a limited harvest fishery.

The 2026 Pacific Salmon Commission Chinook Model Calibration Memo can now be found on the PSC website below:

<https://www.psc.org/publications/technical-reports/technical-committee-reports/chinook/memos-summary-reports/>

An advisory announcement concerning spring troll and terminal harvest area opportunities for 2026 will be available online and in area offices by mid-April, with initial spring areas opening as early as May 1.

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

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