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Advisory Announcement *For Immediate Release:*

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Time: 4:00 P.M.

Chignik Commercial Salmon Advisory Announcement #16 For E.O. 4-FS-L-16-26

The **Chignik Bay** and **Central District** will close to commercial salmon fishing at **11:59 p.m. Friday July 31**.

The **Western District** will open to commercial salmon fishing at **12:01 a.m. Saturday August 1** except that:

- The **Inner Castle Cape** subsection (273-93) of the Western District will remain closed.
- The **East Mitrofanina** closure expires after July 31, so the new statistical area **East Mitrofanina** (273-77) will be open starting 12:01 a.m. August 1.

The **Eastern** and **Perryville Districts** will remain closed to commercial salmon fishing until further notice.

As previously announced:

The **Chignik Bay District** will be open to commercial salmon fishing from **1:00 a.m. Thursday July 30, to 11:59 p.m. Friday July 31**. The Chignik Lagoon markers are located at Oly's Point and a point mid-way between Rocky Point and Jerry's Point.

The following portion of the **Central District** is closed to commercial salmon fishing until further notice:

- **Inner Kujulik Bay**, statistical area 272-51, defined as all waters inland of a line from **56° 33.53 N. lat, 157° 49.35 W. long. to 56° 36.51 N. lat., 157° 40.72 W. long.** in the Kujulik Bay Section of the Central District.

[continued]

Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length may not be retained by purse seine gear in the Chignik Management Area commercial fishery and must be returned to the water unharmed. However, all permit holders **must retain all visibly injured or dead Chinook salmon**, which must be recorded on a fish ticket.

Chinook salmon caps:

Prior to July 31, if more than 1,000 Chinook salmon are harvested within a 48-hour period, the statistical areas determined by the department as primarily responsible will be immediately closed for 7 days.

If more than 5,000 Chinook salmon are harvested within a commercial fishing period, the statistical areas primarily responsible will be immediately closed through August 10.

Closed waters:

From July 1 **through July 31**, all waters of the Chignik Bay District south of a line from the tip of Oly's Point (56° 18.23' N. lat., 158° 36.45' W. long.) to a point between Rocky Point and Jerry's Point (56° 17.83' N. lat., 158° 33.13' W. long) will be closed to commercial salmon fishing in the Chignik Bay Section for Chinook salmon conservation.

A commercial salmon fishing permit holder may not subsistence fish for salmon during the 12 hours before a commercial salmon fishing period or during the 12 hours following the closure of a commercial salmon fishing period.

Permit holders are reminded that all closed waters are as listed in regulation 5 AAC 15.350.

Statistical charts, harvest strategies, and subsistence fishing permits are available at the Chignik weir and the Kodiak regional ADF&G offices. Commercial fishing regulations, commercial harvest, escapement, and news releases can be found on the ADF&G website.

Fishers are encouraged to monitor VHF Channel 6 at 9:15 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. daily for fishery updates.