
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Room 103
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Date: June 22, 2017
Time: 2:30 p.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, June 25, 2017.

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, June 29**, with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point at 54°50.03' N. latitude located at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

District 6: will be open from **12:01 p.m. Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27**, with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: will be closed north and east of a line from Point Nesbitt to Nesbitt Reef Light to Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60' N. latitude, 132°42.70' W. longitude, to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point;

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches.

District 8: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27**, with the following restrictions:

Frederick Sound: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed south and east of a line from the mainland shore at the latitude of the southernmost tip of McDonald Island to the southernmost tip of McDonald Island and south and west of a line from the southernmost tip of McDonald Island to the southernmost tip of Sukoi Island to Sukoi Island Light to a point one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline at the District 10 boundary;

Stikine River: waters off the Stikine River including Chichagof Pass and Zimovia Straits will be closed east of a line from the western shore of Blind Slough at 56°30.73' N. latitude, 132°43.60' W. longitude to Craig Point Light to South Craig Point to Reef Point to the northwest tip of Etolin Island at 56°20.10' N. latitude, 132°32.17' W. longitude;

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches.

Section 11-B (north of the latitude of Circle Point at 58°07.76' N. latitude): will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27, with the following restrictions:

Taku Inlet: will be closed north of the latitude of Jaw Point at 58°16.81' N. latitude;

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches.

Section 11-B (south of the latitude of Circle Point at 58°07.76' N. latitude): will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, June 28, with the following restrictions:

Limestone Inlet: will be closed;

Port Snettisham: waters of Port Snettisham will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman at 57°58.42' N. latitude, 133°53.93' W. longitude to Point Anmer at 57°56.07' N. latitude, 133°51.05' W. longitude;

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches.

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27,** in the waters of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of the southernmost tip of Talsani Island at 59°04.26' N. latitude, east of a line from the southernmost tip of Talsani Island at 59°04.26' N. latitude, 135°16.25' W. longitude to Eldred Rock Light to a point two nautical miles from the eastern shoreline at 58°51.00' N. latitude, 135°12.77' W. longitude, and north of the latitude of Sherman Rock at 58°51.00' N. latitude with the following restrictions:

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches;

Night closure: all of Section 15-A will be closed between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m.

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27,** in those waters within one nautical mile of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude and in all remaining waters of Section 15-C south of the latitude of Point Bridget at 58°40.73' N. latitude with the following restriction:

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches.

Section 15-C: (Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (THA)): will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, June 25, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, June 27,** in those waters within one nautical mile of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude and until further notice in those waters of the Boat Harbor THA west of the regulatory markers at the entrance to Boat Harbor with the following restriction:

Gillnet mesh restriction: maximum allowed mesh size is six inches, excluding the inside waters of the Boat Harbor THA west of the regulatory markers at the entrance of Boat Harbor.

Chinook salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. Chinook salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaska allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. Therefore, fishermen and tenders are asked to keep Chinook salmon harvested in THAs separate from those harvested in traditional areas. Separating these harvests will greatly assist in fish accounting purposes in regards to the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared Chinook salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaska share of the harvest.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S1317.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates
 Statistical Week 25 (June 18 through 24)
 Preliminary Estimates Compiled June 22, 2017

NUMBER OF SALMON

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Days Open
District 1	350	5,000	200	50	11,500	17,100	36	4
District 6	200	2,600	400	800	8,000	12,000	50	2
District 11	250	1,200	10	20	3,000	4,480	20	2
District 15	80	1,200	10	70	74,000	75,360	126	2
Total	880	10,000	620	940	96,500	108,940		

FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total
District 1	10	139	6	1	319	475
District 6	4	52	8	16	160	240
District 11	13	60	1	1	150	224
District 15	1	10	0	1	587	598

Nakat Inlet THA: 1,500 chum salmon to date.

Anita Bay THA: 2,400 Chinook and 500 chum salmon to date.

Deep Inlet THA: confidential.

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

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