

PROPOSED REGULATIONS OF THE  
ALASKA BOARD OF FISHERIES

#79-55A-FB

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See also  
#81-82-FB,  
#79-57-FB

The following are proposed regulations regarding the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat salmon troll fishery that will be considered for adoption after a written comment period which will end on February 1, 1980. Proposed new wording is underlined and deleted wording is capitalized and bracketed.

1. MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE YAKUTAT AND SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA CHINOOK AND COHO TROLL FISHERIES. The management of Yakutat and Southeastern Alaska troll fisheries is complex due to the existence of mixed stocks and fishing pressure from multiple user groups. The Board is concerned that certain user groups, particularly those involved in inshore-terminal fisheries, may be receiving reduced opportunities to harvest coho due to the increased fishing effort on mixed stocks in coastal and offshore waters by the power troll fishery. There is also concern that increases in fishing pressure on mixed stocks may result in overharvest of individual stocks or aggregations of stocks.

Due to those concerns, the Board has:

1. established a hand troll-power troll provisional allocation policy;
2. adopted regulations designed to limit the efficiency of both hand and power troll vessels; and
3. adopted fishing seasons and areas for various gear types.

Within this framework of regulations, it is recognized that changes in run size, run timing, or fleet effort distribution may require inseason adjustment of time and area closures to achieve escapements and distribution of harvest to inshore-terminal areas of Southeastern Alaska.

The Board approves the following management plan for the Southeastern-Yakutat troll fisheries. Seasonal adjustments to fishing seasons and areas will be carried out by the Department of Fish and Game in the following manner:

1. Maintain the regulatory status quo in the inshore, coastal and offshore areas during the early chinook season.
2. Maintain the regulatory status quo in the inshore, coastal and offshore areas during the coho season prior to the July 10-15 time period.
3. On or about July 10 the Department will evaluate the general magnitude and distribution of the coho salmon run and will institute a 10 day closure of the entire Southeastern Alaska troll fishery UNLESS the run appears to be well above average in magnitude and movement of coho to inshore waters appears to be good.

This closure will assist in stabilizing or reducing coastal and offshore effort on coho salmon unless strong runs justify increased harvest. The closure will also assist in obtaining catch and escapement in inshore waters from stocks with earlier run timing instead of obtaining the majority of these requirements from late runs only. The closure will apply to all trolling, since early in the season the mortality on small coho shakers would be quite high.

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4. Following any July closure, coastal and offshore trolling will reopen to hand and power trolling in areas normally opened to each respective gear type for 7-day-per-week fishing unless later closed by emergency order.
5. For inshore waters following any July closure the normal regulations, including the 8-day-on 6-day-off fishing period for certain inshore waters will remain in effect except as the specific area regulations have been modified by the Board during its December 1979 meeting.

It must be understood that additional later season closures may be required for inshore, coastal and offshore troll fisheries if inshore run strength indicators are inadequate.

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ADOPTED: 12/10/79

VOTE: 7/0