The mainland commercial salmon fishery for the East Stepovak, West Stepovak, Balboa Bay, and Beaver Bay sections will be open for set gill net gear only from 6:00 a.m., Monday until 9:00 p.m., Friday from June 1 through July 10. However, there will be a guideline harvest level of 60,000 Chignik River system sockeye salmon for this fishery and this could necessitate terminating the mainland commercial salmon fishery prior to July 10.

The estimate of Chignik River system destined sockeye salmon has been determined as being 80 percent of the sockeye salmon harvested along the mainland from the easternmost tip of McGinty Point to Suzy Creek and the East Stepovak section. The remaining sockeye salmon taken within the mainland fishery have been determined to be Orzinski Bay destined fish.

If the first (Black Lake) run of Chignik River system sockeye salmon is determined to be below escapement goals for the season, the mainland commercial salmon fishery will close until the Department determines that dominantly second-run (Chignik Lake) Chignik River system sockeye salmon are passing through the sections. If it becomes obvious that the second run is below escapement goals for the season, the mainland fishery will be curtailed until it can be targeted toward local mainland stocks. The Chignik River system runs will be assessed on abundance of fish in Chignik Lagoon in addition to weir counts. Factors affecting timing will also be considered.

After July 10 the mainland fishery will be reopened as the local mainland runs develop; however, if the harvest of Chignik River system sockeye salmon in the Southeastern district is less than 60,000, fishing will be allowed to continue prior to the arrival of local mainland runs or until a harvest of 60,000 has been achieved. This is providing that it is apparent the second run Chignik River system sockeye salmon escapement requirements will be met.

If the sockeye harvest in the Chignik area is more than 1,000,000 by July 10 then commercial salmon fishing will also be allowed to continue prior to the arrival of the local mainland runs, providing that the second run of Chignik River system sockeye salmon appears to be stronger than season escapement goals.