UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 15
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-15-19

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 15 reduces legal gear in the set gillnet fishery of the Northern District of Upper Cook Inlet during the regularly scheduled fishing periods from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 22, 2019, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 25, 2019, and from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 29, 2019. In the General Subdistrict of the Northern District, legal gear during these fishing periods will be reduced to no more than one net per permit, measuring no more than 35 fathoms in length. In the Eastern Subdistrict of the Northern District, legal gear during these fishing periods will be reduced to no more than two set gillnets per permit, with each set gillnet measuring no more than 35 fathoms in length, with the aggregate net length not to exceed 70 fathoms per permit.

Susitna River sockeye salmon have been designated by the Alaska Board of Fisheries as a stock of yield concern. The Susitna River Sockeye Salmon Action Plan (SSSAP) directs the department through 5AAC 21.358 Northern District Salmon Management Plan to conservatively manage the commercial fishery while research continues to better understand the productivity of this stock. The Northern District Salmon Management Plan provides the department with the option of reducing gear in the Northern District set gillnet fishery from July 20 through August 6. If the department determines that Susitna River sockeye salmon escapement goals will be achieved, the gear restriction may be relaxed by emergency order.

Further announcements concerning the amount of gear that may be used in the Northern District set gillnet fishery after July 30 will occur later in July or early in August.

Unless otherwise specified, all commercial fishing openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time, and may be found at the following website: https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/usa/anchorage or by calling 303-499-7111.