

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

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2020 POINT GARDNER PURSE SEINE TEST FISHERY

Petersburg.... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is soliciting bids to charter a salmon purse seine fishing vessel to conduct test fishing at Point Gardner on or about **June 24 and July 1, 8, 15, and 22, 2020**. If midweek commercial seine openings occur, fishing dates can be adjusted by mutual agreement between the contractor and the State.

This test fishery will be used to evaluate the run strength and timing of pink salmon returns to Districts 9 and 10. One seine vessel will be chartered to fish along the shore from Point Gardner to Point Brightman. Interested bidders must have prior experience fishing this location and must supply a fishing vessel equipped with a refrigerated sea water system and a minimum fish hold capacity of 25 tons. In addition, successful bidders will be responsible for their own supplies including food, fuel, and net. All fish harvested will become property of the State.

The contract vessel will be required to fish at least seven successful sets during the flood tide of each fishing period. **Sex ratio sampling must be conducted on 100 pinks and 50 chums from at least each of the first seven sets. If less than 100 pinks or 50 chums are caught in a set, samples should be taken from all the pink and chum salmon that are caught in those sets. An average weight per fish must be obtained for both pink and chum salmon by counting and weighing 100 fish of each species during unloading.**

Bids must be based on a percentage of the total value of the harvest for all five test fishing periods. **The maximum amount that may be awarded is \$35,000.** The maximum will be awarded only if a minimum of seven successful sets are completed each week of this contract. Fewer than seven successful sets will be considered fulfilling the minimum sets per period requirement of this contract only through mutual agreement with the department and the contract vessel or if the contract vessel reaches its maximum capacity prior to seven sets being completed. If fewer than seven sets are made, one thirty-fifth (1/35) of the maximum bid amount to be awarded will be deducted for each omitted set. For example, if the maximum bid amount is 100%, \$1,000 (1/35 of \$35,000) will be deducted for each set omitted. Additional sets, in excess of the minimum of seven sets, may be fished by the contracted vessel; however, these additional sets made during a single fishing period are not transferable to periods when seven sets were not completed. Payment processing will begin when fishing and harvest data are received by the Petersburg Fish and Game office. **Any retros, adjustments, bonuses, etc., received after test fishing has been completed will be paid based on the average bid for all five test fishing periods up until the \$35,000 cap is reached.** Bids must be received at the Fish and Game office in Petersburg prior to **3:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 17, 2020.**

Due to conservation concerns, no Chinook salmon may be retained or sold as part of this test fishing program in 2020.

To obtain further information and bid forms contact the Petersburg Fish and Game office at 907-772-3801.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18 commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>.

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

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