

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
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**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: July 17, 2020*

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**UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 19**  
**EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2S-19-20**

Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 19 reduces legal set gillnet gear in 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 20, 2020, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2020, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 27, 2020, and from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday July 30. 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.

The Susitna River Sockeye Salmon Action Plan directs the department through 5AAC 21.358 *Northern District Salmon Management Plan* to conservatively manage the commercial fishery while abundance monitoring 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.

**COVID-19**

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/>