

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

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CLARIFICATION OF OPEN COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ON AUGUST 3, 2020 UNDER UPPER COOK INLET ADVISORY ANNOUNCEMENT # 25 AND EMERGENCY ORDER 2S-25-20

Upper Cook Inlet (UCI) Commercial Fishing Announcement No. 25 opens commercial fishing with drift gillnets in the Expanded Kenai and Expanded Kasilof sections of the Upper Subdistrict and the Anchor Point Section of the Lower Subdistrict from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2020. Commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnet gear remains closed within one mile of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline north of the Kenai River and within one and one-half miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline south of the Kenai River.

As per Emergency order # 2S-04-20 issued on June 22, 2020, there are no regular set gillnet fishing periods in the Upper Subdistrict of UCI. Due to the low abundance of Kenai River late-run king salmon, the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery remains closed on August 3, 2020 and will remain closed until further notice.

The department will continue to monitor escapement of king salmon in the Kenai River and future openings may occur if the king salmon OEG is projected to be achieved in 2020.

All other set gillnet fisheries in UCI, outside of the Upper Subdistrict will fish the regularly scheduled period from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2020, except in that portion of the Western Subdistrict of the Central District south of the latitude of Redoubt Point, which is open from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. on Monday August 3, 2020.

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/>