## **Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director**

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### Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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## **Advisory Announcement**

For Immediate Release: Friday, Aug. 21, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM

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#### **Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery Announcement #25**

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT:** Purse seine- Effective Monday, August 24 waters of the Tutka Bay Hatchery special harvest area (SHA) seaward of the HEA powerlines, (i.e., a line between a point at 59° 27.61' N. lat., 151° 25.88' W. long., and another point at 59° 27.79' N. lat., 151° 25.59' W. longitude) is open on a Monday, Wednesday, and Friday schedule of 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM fishing periods on those days. Also effective on August 24, the Seldovia Bay Subdistrict is open to commercial common property purse seine salmon harvest on this schedule of fishing periods.

The following areas remain open to commercial common property purse seine salmon harvest on a Monday, Wednesday, and Friday schedule of 16 hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM on each of those days,

- -the Humpy Creek Subdistrict,
- -the Halibut Cove Subdistrict, excluding Halibut Cove Lagoon,
- -the China Poot Section, excluding the China Poot SHA,
- -the Neptune Bay Section, excluding the Hazel Lake SHA, and

**Set gillnet-** waters of the Southern District identified in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1) remain open to commercial set gillnet harvest on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week beginning at 6:00 AM on Mondays and Thursdays as defined in 5AAC 21.320(a)(3).

**OUTER DISTRICT:** Effective at 6:00 AM on Monday, August 24, waters of the Head End Section of Port Dick are open east of 151° 18.88' W. longitude for a single 16 hour fishing period ending at 10:00 PM on August 24. Following this, regulatory closed waters for this section as defined in 5AAC 21.350(f)(8) are in effect until further notice.

The following areas are open on a schedule of Monday through Friday 16 hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM on each of those days,

- -the Dogfish Bay Subdistrict,
- -the Port Chatham Subdistrict,
- -the Head End, Middle Creek, and Outer sections of the Port Dick Subdistrict,
- the Island Creek Section of the Port Dick Subdistrict south of a line between a point at 59° 17.03' N. lat., 151° 10.50' W. long., and another point at 59° 15.97' N. lat., 151° 05.48' W. longitude. See Figure 1 at right.
- -the Nuka Island Subdistrict east of 150° 45.20' W. long.,
- -the East Nuka Subdistrict, and
- -the Windy Bay Subdistrict. Regulatory closed

Not for navigational use

Figure 1.- Waters closed to commercial fishing in Port Dick Island Creek Section.

waters defined in 5AAC 21.350(f)(2) in Windy Bay are suspended. Fishing is permitted south and east of a point at 59° 13.77' N. lat., 151° 33.37' W. long. Waters in Windy Bay that are north or west of this point are CLOSED to commercial fishing.

In addition, commercial purse seine salmon fishing is permitted up to the freshwater outflows from Delight, Desire, and Delusion lakes using the definition of freshwater and saltwater boundary found in 5AAC 39.975(a)(26) on page 93 of the 2020-2022 Cook Inlet Area Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations book.

Also, 5AAC 21.350(f)(11) which pertains to the northern portion of McCarty Fjord is rescinded. The Delight Lake freshwater lagoon is **CLOSED** to commercial fishing.

**KAMISHAK DISTRICT:** An aerial survey flown on Monday, August 17 documented significant numbers of coho salmon in the Douglas River and its tributaries inshore of Silver Beach. The McNeil River Subdistrict, and the Paint River Subdistrict remain closed to commercial salmon harvest until further notice. Other subdistricts of the Kamishak District as defined in 5AAC 21.299(e) remain open on a 7-days per week, 24-hour per day schedule. Waters of Chenik Lagoon east of 154° 08.33' W. long. remain open to commercial salmon harvest. Through July 27 a total of 8,355 sockeye salmon have been counted at the weir towards an SEG of 2,900-13,700 fish.

<u>COVID-19</u>: 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: <a href="https://gov.alaska.gov/home/">https://gov.alaska.gov/home/</a> covid19-healthmandates/ and may also be accessed by scanning the quick read (QR) code at right using a smart phone.



Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307.

2020 Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing regulation books are available at ADF&G offices, and online here: <a href="https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2020\_2022\_cf\_cook\_inlet\_salmon.pdf">https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2020\_2022\_cf\_cook\_inlet\_salmon.pdf</a>
This website may also be accessed by scanning the QR code at right.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address:

<a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyarealci.salmon</a>,

which may also be accessed by scanning the adjacent QR code,