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: August 21, 2020

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON PURSE SEINE FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Directed pink salmon fisheries will be closed in District 13.

District 13

Section 13-B will be open in the following areas.

The following areas will be open to purse seining from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 25, 2020:

West Crawfish Inlet: will be open north and east of a line from 56°49.10′ N lat, 135°10.00′ W long to 56°49.54′ N lat, 135°10.53′ W long with the following restrictions:

West Crawfish Head: will be closed north of 56°50.40′ N lat;

<u>Shamrock Bay</u>: all waters will be open. No restrictions will be in effect for Lake Ekaterina Outlet Stream (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed).

Crawfish Inlet SHA: will be open east of line from 56°45.34′ N lat, 135°11.05′ W long to 56°44.87′ N lat, 135°11.05′ W long with the following restrictions:

<u>Crawfish Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from 56°47.41′ N lat, 135°06.61′ W long to 56°47.36′ N lat, 135°07.13′ W long;

<u>Crawfish Inlet head stream</u>: no restrictions will be in effect for the Crawfish Inlet head stream (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed);

All other salmon streams: will be closed to within 200 yards of freshwater (stream channels remain closed).

The following area will be open to purse seining from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Thursday, August 27, and Friday, August 28, 2020:

Crawfish Inlet SHA: will be open east of line from 56°46.87′ N lat, 135°06.66′ W long to 56°47.21′ N lat, 135°07.32′ W long with the following restrictions:

<u>Crawfish Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from 56°47.41′ N lat, 135°06.61′ W long to 56°47.36′ N lat, 135°07.13′ W long;

<u>Crawfish Inlet head stream</u>: no restrictions will be in effect for the Crawfish Inlet head stream (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed);

All other salmon streams: will be closed to within 200 yards of freshwater (stream channels remain closed).

The following area will be open to purse seining from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, August 30, 2020:

Crawfish Inlet SHA: will be open east of line from 56°45.34′ N lat, 135°11.05′ W long to 56°44.87′ N lat, 135°11.05′ W long with the following restrictions:

<u>Crawfish Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from 56°47.41′ N lat, 135°06.61′ W long to 56°47.36′ N lat, 135°07.13′ W long;

<u>Crawfish Inlet head stream</u>: no restrictions will be in effect for the Crawfish Inlet head stream (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed);

All other salmon streams: will be closed to within 200 yards of freshwater (stream channels remain closed).

Crawfish Inlet SHA: NSRAA has forecast a return of 1,579,000 chum salmon to the Crawfish Inlet THA. To date, NSRAA has completed approximately 80 percent of their preseason cost recovery goal and 38,000 chum salmon have been harvested in the common property troll fishery. A portion of West Crawfish Inlet is being opened to harvest hatchery produced chum salmon that have built up at the head of the inlet observed during a recent aerial survey. To minimize potential straying and reduce loss in quality, the department is opening a small portion of West Crawfish Inlet to common property purse seine fishing. This area should have a minimal impact on wild stock salmon returning to West Crawfish Inlet as wild stock pink and chum salmon are typically in the stream based on normal run timing and recent aerial surveys of the area It is important for seine vessels to correctly report harvest location during this opening: West Crawfish Inlet is statistical area 113-32 and Crawfish Inlet is statistical area 113-33.

The department does not anticipate any further directed pink salmon fisheries in Southeast Alaska. Continued poor harvest, below average escapements, and a high female component in the harvest necessitate a closure. The department will continue to monitor pink salmon escapements in middle and late run systems.

The department will monitor fall chum salmon returns to Cholmondeley Sound, Chaik Bay, Nakwasina Sound, Port Camden, Security Bay, and Excursion Inlet. However, given weak summer chum salmon runs throughout Southeast Alaska it is anticipated there will be little to no opportunity.

<u>Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions</u>: Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length **MAY be retained and sold.** Chinook salmon less than 28 inches may be retained but not sold.

Fishermen and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.

This will be the last scheduled purse seine announcement. Any further fall chum salmon opportunities will be announced in a stand-alone announcement.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S5120.

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/.

Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Harvest Estimates Statistical Week 34 (midweek)

Preliminary Estimates Compiled August 21, 2020

NIII	MRFRS	OF SA	LMON
	VI 13 F. R. S.	UP 3A	11/1/11/11

Area	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats
District 13	0	100	280	78,500	4,800	83,680	51
Total	0	100	280	78,500	4,800	83,680	51

Area Chinook Sockeye Coho Pink Chum Total

District 13 0 2 5 1,539 94 1,641

Deep Inlet THA harvest to date: 2,500 Chinook and 224,500 chum salmon.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255

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AWT 225-5111 772-3983 874-3215 747-3254 465-4000 766-2533 784-3220