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Advisory Announcement

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CHILKOOT AND LUTAK INLETS SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHERY CLOSURE

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the closure of subsistence salmon fishing in Chilkoot and Lutak Inlets **from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 20, to 11:59 p.m., Saturday, August 31, 2024:**

Chilkoot and Lutak Inlets and Chilkoot River and Lake: will be closed north of the latitude of Battery Point at 59°12.47' N lat, excluding waters of Taiya Inlet north of the latitude of Taiya Point at 59°17.27' N lat, and in Chilkat Inlet north of the latitude of Glacier Point at 59°06.02' N lat.

Sockeye salmon escapement to Chilkoot River is well below levels needed to meet the sustainable escapement goal of 38,000 to 86,000 fish. As of July 15, 600 sockeye salmon have passed through the Chilkoot River weir projecting a total escapement of 3,300 fish based on average run timing. On average, 20,000 sockeye salmon have passed through the weir by this date.

The department will continue to closely monitor sockeye salmon escapement to Chilkoot River. If escapement improves substantially, the department may reopen this area prior to August 31. Chilkat Inlet and River remain open to subsistence harvest. To provide additional opportunity, the department is opening more area in Chilkat Inlet to include waters north of the latitude of Ayiklutu Point **from 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 20, 2024, to 11:59 p.m., Saturday, August 31, 2024:**

Chilkat Inlet: will be open north of the latitude of Ayiklutu Point at 59°04.93' N lat.

The sport fishery will close to retention of sockeye salmon in Chilkoot River and Lake effective 12:01 a.m., Thursday, July 18, 2024. The commercial drift gillnet fishery in Lynn Canal has been and will continue to be limited in time and area to minimize harvest of Chilkoot River sockeye salmon, particularly in Section 15-A.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S4324.

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

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