



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 30, 2024

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UPPER COOK INLET COMMERCIAL FISHING ANNOUNCEMENT No. 48
EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 2-F-H-51-24

Commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be open in State of Alaska waters of Drift Gillnet Area 1, Drift gillnet Area 3, the Expanded Kenai section, the Expanded Kasilof section, and the Anchor Point section from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 1, 2024. Commercial salmon fishing with drift gillnets will be extended in the Expanded Kenai section, the Expanded Kasilof section, and the Anchor Point section from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on August 1, 2024

Drift gillnet fishing is prohibited within 2-miles of the Kenai Peninsula shoreline in compliance with the *Kenai River Late-run King Salmon Stock of Concern Management Plan (5 AAC 21.382)*.

Through July 29, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kasilof River was 951,725 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 1,183,000 sockeye salmon which exceeds the biological escapement goal of 140,000–320,000 sockeye salmon. Through July 29, the cumulative sockeye salmon escapement estimate for the Kenai River was 1,595,570 fish and the current mean run timing projection of escapement is approximately 2,926,000 sockeye salmon which exceeds the inriver goal of 1,100,000–1,400,000 sockeye salmon. This commercial fishing period is warranted to harvest abundant sockeye salmon.

Fishermen and processors are reminded of the legal requirement to report all commercially harvested salmon on a fish ticket, whether sold or kept for personal use (5 AAC 39.130(c)(7)). Fish harvest during the August 1 fishing period should be reported in the statistical area the fish are harvested in except if fish are caught in the Expanded Full Corridor and Anchor Point section areas, then report harvest using 244-57.

Please contact NOAA regarding fishing periods in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and federal fishery regulations at the NOAA Sustainable Fisheries Division at (907) 586-7228.

General information for all UCI commercial fisheries and specifics about harvest levels, required permits, reporting requirements, or the registration processes, can be obtained by calling the Soldotna ADF&G staff at 907-262-9368, and also found at the ADF&G UCI commercial fisheries web site. <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareauci.main>