Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 6, 2024

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK) commercial troll fishery will remain open until further notice. The department will not implement a mid-August troll closure for coho salmon management this season. Based on the second coho salmon run strength assessment, which evaluates catch rates, effort, projected catches, and early escapement data, the department has determined that a troll closure is not necessary at this time for coho salmon conservation or allocation. The department will continue to closely monitor abundance indicators as the season progresses and will take appropriate action should the run fail to develop as projected.

The waters of frequent high Chinook salmon abundance (5 AAC 29.025), as modified by emergency order and described in the July 8, 2024, summer troll fishery advisory announcement, remain closed as well as those waters identified in 5 AAC 29.150. Modifications to area descriptions under emergency order authority for 5 AAC 29.100 remain in effect in Districts 1,15, and 181, as described in the summer troll fishery advisory announcement issued June 27, 2024.

Chinook Salmon

A total of 82,000 treaty Chinook salmon were harvested by trollers during the first summer retention period, leaving an estimated 15,000 Chinook salmon on the annual treaty troll allocation. However, in accordance with *Allocation of King Salmon in the Southeastern Alaska-Yakutat Area* (5 AAC 29.060), and the *Southeast Alaska King Salmon Management Plan* (5 AAC 47.055) any underage or overage in the Southeast Alaska sport fishery is added to or subtracted from the commercial troll allocation of Chinook salmon. The current Chinook salmon harvest projection for the sport fishery indicates the sport fishery will exceed the 2024 preseason allocation by an estimated 14,000 Chinook salmon. Following this reduction, the remaining annual troll allocation does not provide a sufficient harvest target to open a competitive second summer commercial troll fishery Chinook salmon retention period. However, if there is an adequate number of Chinook salmon remaining on the all-gear treaty allocation, a limited harvest troll fishery may open. Any plans to open a limited harvest fishery would be announced later this month.

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

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