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SOUTHEAST ALASKA/YAKUTAT WINTER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2024/2025 commercial winter troll fishery for Chinook salmon will be extended and remain open only in defined outer coastal waters (Figures 1 and 2) until the guideline harvest level (GHL) of 45,000 non-Alaska hatchery-produced (treaty) Chinook salmon is reached, or through 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, 2025, whichever occurs first (5 AAC 29.080[a]). The commercial winter troll fishery will close in the remaining waters of the winter troll fishery area at 11:59 p.m., Saturday, March 15, 2025. The department estimates that approximately 28,000 treaty Chinook salmon remain on the winter GHL. Permit holders are advised that if the department estimates the GHL will be taken before the announced closure date, a fishery closure may be announced on short notice. The fishery closure will be announced by Alaska Department of Fish and Game advisory announcement, troll fishery hotline, and may be included with the United States Coast Guard and National Weather Service marine broadcasts. A description of the winter troll boundary line (5 AAC 29.020[b]), as modified by emergency order, is detailed in the advisory announcement issued on October 7, 2024.

During the 2022 and 2025 Southeast Alaska/Yakutat (SEAK) Alaska Board of Fisheries meetings, action plans were adopted giving the department direction, through emergency order authority, to identify and implement actions that provide conservation for SEAK and Transboundary River (TBR) wild Chinook salmon stocks while continuing to identify harvest opportunities that maintain conservation of these stocks. The harvest proportions of wild SEAK and TBR stocks seen in fisheries operating on the outside waters of Southeast Alaska continue to remain low due to the abundance of non-Alaska stocks prevalent in these areas, in contrast to the higher proportions of wild SEAK and TBR stocks encountered on the inside waters of Southeast Alaska during previous late winter fishing periods. Accordingly, the late winter troll fishery will be extended only in waters along the outer coast to harvest the remainder of the winter Chinook salmon GHL.

The following winter troll fishery areas will remain open east of the winter boundary line from March 16–31:

District 13: in all waters of 13-A as described in 5 AAC 33.200(m)(1) north of the latitude of Point Theodore at 57°50.75' N lat, 136°27.57' W long;

<u>District 14</u>: in waters of Section 14-A, as described in 5 AAC 33.200(n)(1), that are west of a line from $58^{\circ}16.98'$ N lat, $136^{\circ}29.02'$ W long to $58^{\circ}13.33'$ N lat, $136^{\circ}21.40'$ W long.

The following winter troll fishery areas will remain open east of the winter boundary line from March 16-April 15:

District 3: in all waters of Sections 3-B and 3-C as described in 5 AAC 33.200(c)(2) and (3);

District 4: in waters of the district as described in 5 AAC 33.200(d);

District 5: in waters of the district as described in 5 AAC 33.200(e) that are south of a line from Point Howard at 56°04.15' N lat, 134°13.98' W long to Cape Pole at 55°57.41' N lat, 133°48.90' W long;

<u>District 9</u>: in waters of Section 9-A as described in 5 AAC 33.200(i)(1) that are south of a line from Cape Ommaney at 56°09.83' N lat, 134°40.42' W long to Point Howard at 56°04.15' N lat, 134°13.98' W long and north and east of a line from Cape Ommaney to Nation Point at 55°55.66' N lat, 134°20.10' W long to Helm Point at 55°49.42' N lat, 134°16.95' W long;

District 13: in waters of Section 13-B as described in 5 AAC 33.200(m)(2) and in all waters of 13-A as described in 5 AAC 33.200(m)(1) that are south of the latitude of Point Theodore at 57°50.75' N lat, 136°27.57' W long;

Districts 181 and 183: in waters of Yakutat Bay.

The Emergency Order corresponding to this announcement is EO 1S0125.

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

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	784-3206
Troll Hotline	225-6870			747-8765	465-8765			

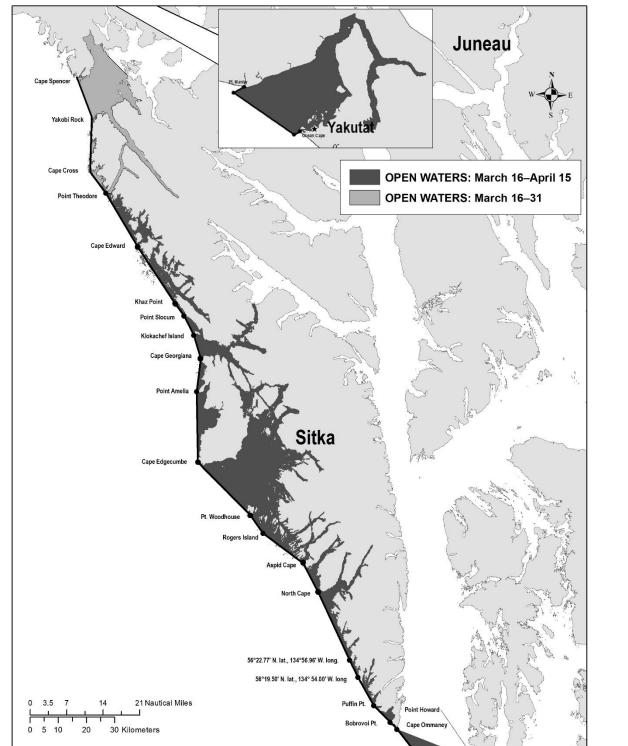


Figure 1.–Winter Troll Fishery, Northern and Central Outside (open March 16–31 and March 16–April 15, or until GHL is taken, whichever occurs first).

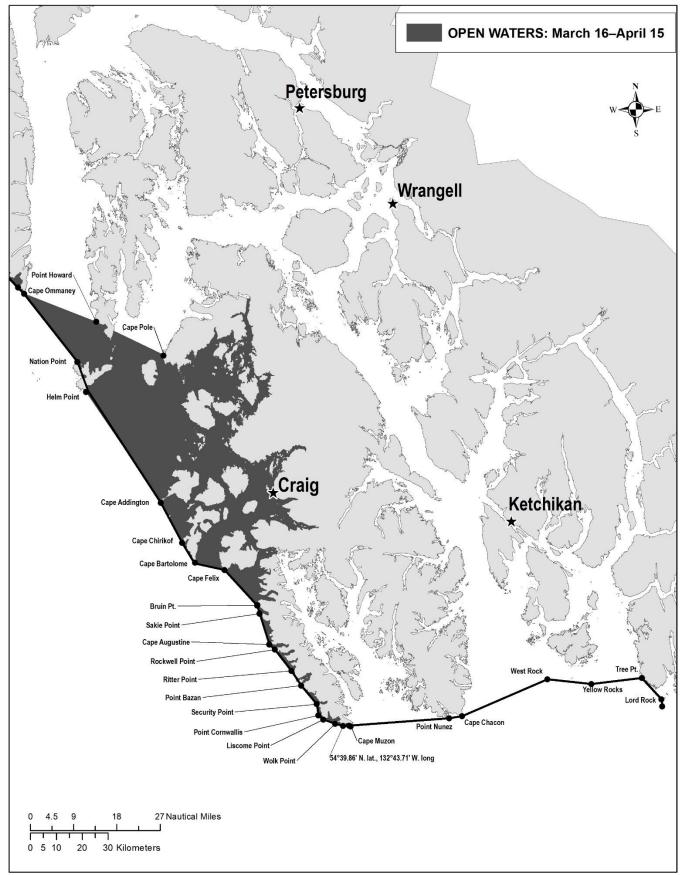


Figure 2.–Winter Troll Fishery, Southern Outside (open March 16–April 15, or until GHL is taken, whichever occurs first).