# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

# **NEWS RELEASE**



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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## SOUTHEAST ALASKA SUMMER TROLL FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced the following information concerning the commercial salmon troll fishery:

The Southeast/Yakutat commercial troll fishery will be extended through 11:59 p.m., September 30, 2015 to the retention of all species except king salmon, with the following restrictions:

Districts 1 and 2: waters south of the latitude of Foggy Point at 54°55.54′ N. latitude will be closed.

District 12: Section 12-B will be closed (waters north of the latitude of Point Couverden).

District 14: Sections 14-B and 14-C will be closed (waters east of a line beginning at 58°13.00′ N. latitude, 135°57.00′ W. longitude, to Lemesurier Island to Point Carolus and west of a line from Point Couverden Light to Point Augusta Light).

District 15: will be closed.

The areas of frequent high king salmon abundance [5 AAC 29.025] will remain closed.

The extension is being implemented based on projections by the department that escapement goals will be met after considering harvest and effort. The wild commercial harvest and total all-gear commercial harvest projections for coho salmon are down from the estimates in early August, due mainly to near record low troll effort targeting coho during late August and early September. Coho catch rates in the troll and drift gillnet fisheries have improved recently, with troll CPUEs near or above the 20-year average in all portions of the region except the Southern Inside troll area. The areas scheduled to close on September 20 are not being extended due to well-below average catch rates and early indications of relatively weak coho returns to those areas.

#### LANDING REQUIREMENTS

Fish tickets must be submitted to the department within **seven** days of landing. The operator of a fishing vessel whose port of delivery is outside the State of Alaska must submit a completed fish ticket to the department <u>before</u> the fish are transported out of the State. All salmon harvested in the summer troll fishery must be offloaded prior to participating in the winter troll fishery.

### TERMINAL AND SPECIAL HARVEST AREAS (THA AND SHA)

The Port Armstrong SHA (109-11) will remain open to trolling through 11:59 p.m., September 30, with the following restriction:

Waters north of a line from 56°17.61′ N. latitude, 134°40.27′ W. longitude to 56°17.67′ N. latitude, 134°39.64′ W. longitude are closed to commercial trolling.

The Mist Cove SHA (109-13) will remain open to trolling for all species except king salmon through 11:59 p.m., September 30, with the following restriction:

Waters south of a line from 56°31.07′ N. latitude, 134°40.20′ W. longitude to 56°31.07′ N. latitude, 134°40.12′ W. longitude are closed to commercial trolling.

The Hidden Falls THA (112-22) will remain open to trolling for all species except king salmon through 11:59 p.m., October 10, with the following restriction:

Waters are closed north and west of a line between a point at 57°13.17′ N. latitude, 134°51.86′ W. longitude and a point at 57°13.08′ N. latitude, 134°52.02′ W. longitude, and the waters north of a line from 57°13.05′ N. latitude, 134°52.24′ W. longitude to 57°13.06′ N. latitude, 134°52.20′ W. longitude.

The Deep Inlet THA (113-38) will remain open to trolling through October 3 for all species, according to the rotational schedule described in a news release issued on April 3.

The Anita Bay THA (107-35) will remain open to trolling for all species through 11:59 p.m., November 10.

The Neets Bay THA (101-95) will remain open to trolling for all species except king salmon through 11:59 p.m., September 30, in the following waters:

Waters east of the easternmost tip of Bug Island and west of the barrier net at the head of the bay will be open.

The Nakat Inlet THA (101-11) will remain open to trolling for all species except king salmon through 11:59 p.m., November 10.

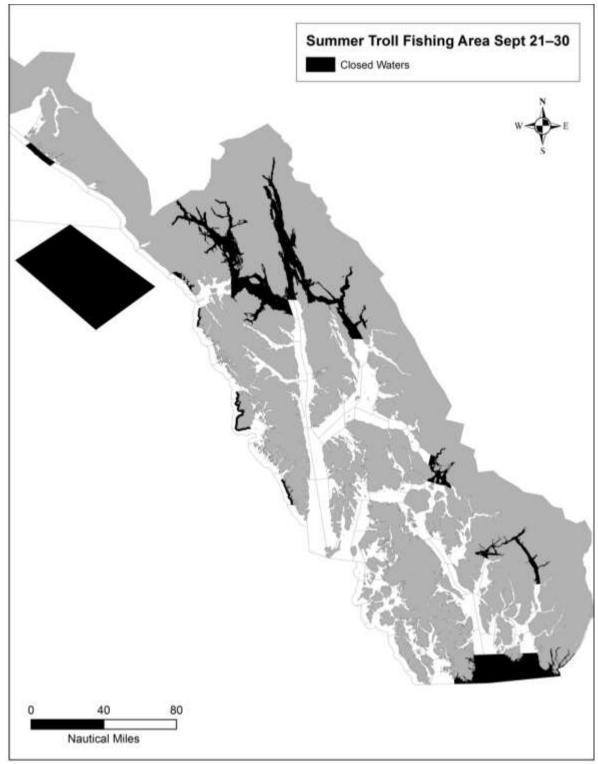
#### WINTER TROLL FISHERY

The 2015–2016 winter troll fishery will open according to regulation at 12:01 a.m., October 11, 2015. The 2015–2016 Winter Troll Fishery Management Plan will be available by early October in all ADF&G area offices and on the troll fishery website.

The 2015 Summer Troll Fishery Management Plan is available at all regional ADF&G offices and on the troll website at:

 $\underline{http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg} = \underline{commercial by areas outheast.salmon\ trollsummer}$ 

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S6915.



Southeast Alaska summer troll open waters, September 21–30, 2015.

News releases web site: <a href="http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main">http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</a>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983		747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	784-3206
Troll Hotline	225-6870	772-3700		747-8765	465-8765			