
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Date: March 29, 2012

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Time: 2:30 p.m.

2012 COMMERCIAL TROLL CHINOOK SALMON QUOTA

Sitka. . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that under Chinook salmon management provisions of the Pacific Salmon Treaty (PST), the 2012 abundance index (AI) for Southeast Alaska has been calculated to be 1.52, which results in an all-gear harvest quota of 266,800 treaty Chinook salmon. This all-gear abundance-based quota represents a decrease of 28,000 fish when compared with last year's preseason estimate of 294,800 fish at an AI of 1.69. The commercial troll fishery preseason Chinook salmon harvest allocation for 2012 is 197,300 fish, a decrease of 20,700 Chinook when compared with last year's troll allocation.

The all-gear Chinook salmon quota is allocated among commercial and sport fisheries according to management plans established in regulation by the Alaska Board of Fisheries [5 AAC 29.060(b) and 47.055]. Most Chinook salmon produced from Alaska hatcheries are not factored into the AI and may be harvested in addition to the treaty limit.

The allocations to fisheries for 2012 under the regulatory management plan are as follows:

2012 Treaty Chinook Salmon Allocations	Number of Chinook Salmon
All-gear treaty quota	266,800
Purse seine (4.3% of all-gear)	11,472
Drift gillnet (2.9% of all-gear)	7,737
Set gillnet (1,000)	1,000
Troll (80% after net gear subtracted)	197,272
Sport (20% after net gear subtracted)	49,318

The summer commercial troll quota is calculated by subtracting the treaty Chinook salmon harvested in the winter and spring troll fisheries from the annual troll allocation. However, because the final harvest numbers for non-Alaska hatchery fish (treaty fish) in the winter and spring fisheries will not be known until late June, fishing time for the summer season will not be set until just prior to the first summer season Chinook salmon opening on July 1.

The winter fishery is managed to not exceed the guideline harvest level of 45,000 Chinook salmon. While there is no specific total limit on the number of treaty Chinook salmon that may be harvested in the spring fishery, the goal of the spring fishery is the harvest of Alaska hatchery fish and fisheries are managed to limit the harvest of treaty Chinook.

The summer fishery will be managed to target the harvest of 70% of the total summer quota in the first summer Chinook salmon opening in July, with the remaining quota available for harvest in a second opening which will likely be in August. The decision as to whether the first summer opening will be managed in season rather than for a fixed number of days will be announced just prior to the July 1 opening.

Troll fishery information can be found at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareasoutheast.salmon>

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=news.main>

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