



Advisory Announcement

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SOUTHEAST ALASKA SALMON DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Southeast Alaska salmon drift gillnet fishery will be closed for the remainder of the 2026 season.

Section 1-B: **will be closed.**

2026 Drift Gillnet Fishery Summary

Traditional common property drift gillnet openings began June 14 and concluded October 1, 2026. Traditional drift gillnet harvests of all species were below recent 10-year (2016–2025) averages. Drift gillnet effort increased by 20 permits from 2025 with 342 permits making landings in traditional and terminal harvest areas (THA) but was well below the recent 10-year average of 380 permits (Table 1).

Table 1. 2026 Southeast Alaska traditional drift gillnet harvest and effort estimates (data as of 10/1/26).

District	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Boats
101	500	26,000	28,000	150,000	261,000	47
106	1,100	58,000	61,000	192,000	251,000	116
108	600	13,000	11,000	12,000	60,000	70
111	1,800	69,000	14,000	46,000	407,000	119
115	1,200	105,000	21,000	65,000	442,000	171
Total	5,200	271,000	135,000	465,000	1,421,000	342
16–25 Avg	7,105	284,011	165,130	588,768	1,677,743	380

The estimated common property THA drift gillnet harvest is 1.3 million chum salmon, above the recent average harvest (Table 2).

Table 2. 2026 Southeast Alaska THA drift gillnet harvest estimates (data as of 10/1/26).

THA	Chinook	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum
Nakat Inlet	95	1,700	5,200	28,000	474,000
Carroll Inlet	200	0	0	0	40
Neets Bay	0	10	20	470	55,000
Anita Bay	2,500	130	12,800	100	82,000
Speel Arm	0	300	0	100	0
Deep Inlet	2,000	150	1,000	31,000	150,000
Boat Harbor	130	10,000	275	14,000	517,000
Total	4,927	12,250	19,300	73,720	1,278,041
16–25 Avg	10,498	22,708	15,396	62,513	1,068,819

Salmon runs were mixed throughout the region. Chinook salmon production remains poor, and escapement goals will likely be achieved in 3 of 11 index systems, not achieved in 7, and 1 is still too preliminary to tell. Sockeye salmon runs were generally good to excellent throughout the region. Sockeye salmon escapement goals were achieved for the Chilkat, Chilkoot, Taku, and Stikine Rivers, and McDonald, Speel, and Redoubt Lakes but, narrowly missed for Hugh Smith Lake. Coho salmon escapements are still being evaluated. Wild chum salmon runs were poor to moderate in most areas. The pink

salmon run was moderate with an all-gear harvest of 20.4 million fish. Pink salmon escapement targets were met in 39 of 46 stock groups. Most of the stock groups that did not meet targets were in northern Southeast Alaska.

The overall exvessel value of the 2026 drift gillnet harvest is expected to be significantly higher than the prior two seasons and the 2016–2025 average value of \$21.4 million. Salmon prices were substantially higher than they have been for many years with initial price per pound estimates of \$6.11 for Chinook, \$3.08 for sockeye, \$1.88 for coho, \$0.71 for pink, and \$1.37 for chum salmon. The final price per pound paid will not be determined until this winter.

Detailed summaries of harvest and escapement for each district and THA will be given at this year's Drift Gillnet Task Force meeting on December 2 in Ketchikan and will be included in the *Annual management report of the 2026 Southeast Alaska commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fisheries*.

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