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SKOKOMISH TRIBE'S 2015 ANNUAL SUMMER/FALL CHINOOK AND PINK SALMON REGULATIONS F#15-08

1. INTRODUCTION

These regulations shall apply to all commercial fisheries for summer/fall Chinook and Pink salmon in the on-reservation portion of the Skokomish River (the full width of the Skokomish River, from the river mouth upstream to the Bonneville Power Administration's power lines), the Skokomish River delta flats, and off-reservation commercial marine catch reporting areas 12, 12B, 12C, 12D and 12H (the Hoodsport Hatchery Zone which is the area 1,000 feet from the shore between the Hoodsport Marina dock to the dock at Glen Ayr).

2. MANAGEMENT PERIODS

1. Area 9: June 28 through August 25
2. Area 12: July 06 through September 5
3. Area 12B: July 06 through September 12
4. Area 12C, 12D: July 12 through September 18
5. Area 82G: July 26 through September 12

3. LAWFUL GEAR

When fisheries are authorized, the following gear types shall be considered lawful gear unless otherwise specified in emergency regulations.

1) Marine Drift Nets Areas 12C: 5" minimum mesh with maximum length 330 fathoms, except after August 1 then minimum mesh must be 7".
2) Beach Seines 12C & 12H: 4.0" minimum mesh at the wings, 3.5" maximum at the bunt, a maximum length 100 fathoms with 200 mesh maximum depth, multifilament net only.
3) Set Gillnet length restrictions as follows:
    a) Skokomish River (HWY 106 Bridge to HWY 101 Bridge): 5" minimum mesh with maximum length 30 fathoms.

b) Skokomish River (Above TPU to HWY 106 Bridge): 5" minimum mesh with maximum length 55 fathoms.
c) Skokomish River (Below TPU After 10/1): 5" minimum mesh with maximum length 100 fathoms.
d) Marine Areas 12C: 5" minimum mesh with maximum length 110 fathoms, except after August 1 then minimum mesh must be 7".
e) Hand Held Gear (hook & line, dip nets, spears) as defined in the Skokomish On-Reservation Treaty Fishing Ordinance.

4. FISHERY AREA SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

I. SKOKOMISH RIVER:
   a. August 1 – October 1, the river is closed for gillnets from the mouth upstream to the State Route 106 bridge.
   b. Beach seines and hand-held gear must release all chum unharmed through October 15th.
   c. No set-net may be placed so that it covers more than 1/3 of the distance across the wetted channel of the river. Set-net lengths or position must be adjusted to conform to this provision when tides or other conditions reduce the amount of water in the channel.
   d. Set-net locations shall only be at fishing sites registered as per the Skokomish On-Reservation Treaty Fishing Ordinance section 7.02.028 (a).
   e. All nets must be lifted at least once every 24 hours.

II. AREA 12C:
   a. All set-nets must be lifted at least once every 24 hours.
   b. No marine set nets may be operated closer than 1,500 feet from any stream or river mouth that is not open to fishing.
   c. Beach seines release chum August 1st through August 31st.

III. AREAS 12C and 12H:
   a. Beach seines, dip nets and hand held gear must release all chum unharmed.

IV. ALL AREAS:
   a. Marine drift or set-nets must not be operated closer than 1,500 feet from any stream or river mouth. Stream mouths are defined as the point where a stream enters the marine area at mean low water. In Area 12, the mouth of Big Beef Creek is defined by the Seabeck Highway Bridge.

5. FISHERIES OPENINGS

I. Areas 9, 12, 12A, 12B, 12D, 82F (Quilcene River) are closed to commercial Chinook fishing.

II. Area 12H (Hoodsport Hatchery Zone) opens week beginning July 12th through September 19th. This area does not have a true management period and will operate as a surplus fishery Tuesday and Thursday of each week. Possible in-season modifications with potential extensions beyond September 19th.

III. Area 9A (Port Gamble Bay) does not have a true management period and is closed to commercial Chinook fishing.

IV. Area 82G (Skokomish River) opens July 13th through August 20th, for three days per week.

V. Area 82J (Purdy Creek) will open on every Saturday beginning July 11th through August 29th. Possible in-season modifications with potential extensions beyond August 29th.

6. EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

Commercial openings in areas not listed in the regulation shall be by emergency regulation. Openings, as well as restrictions, outlined in these regulations may be modified at any time by emergency regulations based on in-season management information. Emergency regulations shall be posted at the Skokomish Tribe fisheries building and the Skokomish Tribe Website. It is the responsibility of the individual fisher to obtain these regulations every week. The Skokomish Tribe intends to fully harvest its share of Chinook salmon.

7. AUTHORITY

These regulations are promulgated by the Skokomish Fish Committee and adopted by the Skokomish Tribal Council under authority of the Skokomish On-Reservation Treaty Fishing Ordinance section 7.02.025.

Cynthia Gray
Finfish Harvest Manager
Skokomish Natural Resources

"I certify that copies of this document were mailed pre-paid on 6-15-15 to all persons required by the Federal District Court's Order of March 1 1976.
Signed Elena C Miller
Title Admin Asst