

**NOVEMBER 1, 2023  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL/REVISIONS**

**REQUESTED ADDITIONS TO THE PACKET**

<b><u>ACTION</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>REQUESTED BY</u></b>
Add to Item E.1	<b>Ordinance No. 3375-2023</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kenaitze Indian Tribe Donation – Replacement Letter</li></ul>	Administration
Add to Item E.4	<b>Resolution No. 2023-63</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2022 UCI Salmon Season Summary</li><li>• Upper Cook Inlet Commercial Fisheries Annual Management Report 2021</li><li>• ESSN Closure Report</li></ul>	Council Member Douthit



**KENAITZE**  
**INDIAN**  
**TRIBE**

September 27, 2023

Kenai Animal Shelter  
City of Kenai  
210 Fidalgo Ave.  
Kenai, AK 99611

Dear Kenai Animal Shelter,

On behalf of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, I would like to express our support for your services and efforts to our community through a donation of \$3,000.00. We believe that Kenai Animal Shelter provides important assistance and support addressing the needs of our residents.

With this donation we hope to help your cause and encourage continuation of your endeavors for the lasting benefit of our shared community. We would love to hear how we have been able to contribute, so please do not hesitate to write us at:

**Attn: Natália Flores**  
**Kenaitze Indian Tribe**  
**P.O. BOX 988**  
**Kenai, AK 99611**

The health and wellbeing of our community and cooperation for supporting its needs is important to the Tribe as we deliver a variety of programs and services that promote the wellness of our people and the region. We wish you much success in your continued work for our shared community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Office Supervisor, Natália Flores, through email [NFlores@kenaitze.org](mailto:NFlores@kenaitze.org).

Sincerely,

Chelsea Hendriks  
Interim Executive Director

P.O. Box 988 • Kenai, AK 99611 | Phone: 907-335-7200 • FAX: 855-335-8865 | [www.kenaitze.org](http://www.kenaitze.org)

sockeye salmon escapement goals, allowing harvest of sockeye salmon, and minimizing the harvest of late-run Kenai River Chinook salmon. From June 23 to July 14, commercial fishing periods were restricted to no more than 24 hours per week, with a 36-hour continuous closure per week beginning between 7:00 p.m. Thursday and 7:00 a.m. Friday. On July 16, the Department issued EO, No. 2-KS-1-53-22, closing the Kenai River drainage to sport fishing for Chinook salmon effective 12:01 a.m. Sunday, July 17. As directed by the KRLKSMP, the ESSN fishery was also closed beginning July 17.

The Kasilof Section (statistical areas 244-31, 244-22 and 244-21; (Figure 2) set gillnet fishery opened on Thursday, June 23. On July 7, the North Kalifornsky Beach (NKB) statistical area (244-32) opened with additional restrictions specific to the NKB statistical area, including that from July 1 to the opening of the season in the Kenai and East Foreland sections, the NKB statistical area can be opened within 600 feet of the mean high tide mark using set gillnets that are no greater than 29 meshes in depth, and with mesh sizes no greater than four- and three-quarter inches. This was to provide some sockeye fishing opportunity while trying to minimize the harvest of Chinook salmon. In 2022, the first day of fishing for the Kenai and East Foreland sections concurrently, occurred on July 11. Both the Kenai River sport Chinook salmon fishery and the ESSN commercial fisheries for all salmon were closed after July 17 to conserve Kenai River Chinook salmon. The ESSN fishery remained closed for the remainder of the season as per the KRLKSMP.

As the 2022 season progressed, the number of open fishing periods that were allotted to each fishery were as follows. ESSN fishing periods were provided from June 23 to July 17, of which one day included area-restricted openings of the NKB section. In total, from June 22 through July 17, the Kasilof Section set gillnet fishery was open on seven different days. From July 11 through July 17, the Kenai and East Foreland sections were open on two different days.

The option to open the Kasilof River Special Harvest area (KRSMA) was not used in 2022.

On July 25, 2022, the department made a formal inseason estimate of the total sockeye salmon run to date and the estimated run remaining. Based on the offshore test fish data, and current run abundance counts, the 2022 sockeye salmon run was expected to be on-time to three days late, and the projected Kenai River sockeye salmon total run would be 3.6 million fish. Based on this inseason projection, management of the ESSN fishery did not change and remained in the middle management tier for run sizes between 2.3 to 4.6 million Kenai River sockeye salmon. However, this assessment did not alter fishery management because Kenai River late-run Chinook salmon abundance remained low, and the Kenai River sport fishery for Chinook salmon remained closed for the duration of the sport fishing season.

### ***ESSN Sockeye Salmon Harvest, 2022***

The total 2022 sockeye salmon harvest in the ESSN fisheries was 104,678 fish which is 84% below the recent 10-year average (683,082 fish). From June 23 through July 14, the Kasilof Section harvest was 81,591 sockeye salmon which is 75% below the recent 10-year average (332,490 fish). From July 11 through July 14, the Kenai and East Foreland sections were open on two different days, producing a total sockeye salmon harvest of 23,087 sockeye salmon which is 92% below the recent 10-year average (287,816 fish).

### ***Drift Gillnet Fishery for Sockeye Salmon***

At the beginning of the season, the drift gillnet fishery management fell into the provisions of the

Year	Central District						Northern District		Total
	Drift gillnet		Upper subdistrict set		Kalgin/West side set		Set gillnet		
	Number <sup>a</sup>	%	Number <sup>a</sup>	%	Number <sup>a</sup>	%	Number <sup>a</sup>	%	
1997	2,197,961	52.6	1,832,856	43.9	48,723	1.2	97,455	2.3	4,176,995
1998	599,396	49.2	512,306	42.0	47,165	3.9	60,650	5.0	1,219,517
1999	1,413,995	52.8	1,092,946	40.8	114,454	4.3	59,123	2.2	2,680,518
2000	656,427	49.6	529,747	40.1	92,477	7.0	43,831	3.3	1,322,482
2001	846,275	46.3	870,019	47.6	59,709	3.3	50,848	2.8	1,826,851
2002	1,367,251	49.3	1,303,158	47.0	69,609	2.5	33,100	1.2	2,773,118
2003	1,593,638	45.8	1,746,841	50.3	87,193	2.5	48,489	1.4	3,476,161
2004	2,529,642	51.3	2,235,810	45.4	134,356	2.7	27,276	0.6	4,927,084
2005	2,520,327	48.1	2,534,345	48.4	157,612	3.0	26,415	0.5	5,238,699
2006	784,771	35.8	1,301,275	59.3	94,054	4.3	12,630	0.6	2,192,730
2007	1,823,481	55.0	1,353,407	40.8	122,424	3.7	17,467	0.5	3,316,779
2008	983,303	41.3	1,303,236	54.8	67,366	2.8	26,230	1.1	2,380,135
2009	968,075	47.3	905,853	44.3	131,214	6.4	40,652	2.0	2,045,794
2010	1,587,657	56.1	1,085,789	38.4	114,719	4.1	40,177	1.4	2,828,342
2011	3,201,035	60.6	1,877,939	35.6	163,539	3.1	35,482	0.7	5,277,995
2012	2,924,144	93.3	96,675	3.1	90,440	2.9	22,580	0.7	3,133,839
2013	1,662,561	62.0	921,533	34.3	75,707	2.8	23,423	0.9	2,683,224
2014	1,501,678	64.1	724,398	30.9	80,271	3.4	37,687	1.6	2,344,034
2015	1,012,684	38.2	1,481,336	55.9	99,771	3.8	55,876	2.1	2,649,667
2016	1,266,746	52.8	997,853	41.6	85,194	3.6	47,150	2.0	2,396,943
2017	880,279	47.6	832,220	45.0	79,788	4.3	56,956	3.1	1,849,243
2018	400,269	48.9	289,841	35.4	75,217	9.2	52,552	6.4	817,895
2019	749,101	43.5	784,543	45.6	113,695	6.6	73,220	4.3	1,720,559
2020	283,727	40.8	295,341	42.4	68,864	9.9	47,822	6.9	695,754
2021	851,901	60.4	407,007	28.9	80,443	5.7	71,417	5.1	1,410,768
1970–2020 Avg <sup>b</sup>	1,621,752	54.6	1,075,666	36.5	102,356	4.9	79,943	4.0	2,879,718
2011–2020 Avg	1,388,222	55.2	830,168	37.0	93,249	5.0	45,275	2.9	2,356,915

<sup>a</sup> Harvest data prior to 2022 reflect minor adjustments to historical catch database.

<sup>b</sup> 1989 was not used in averages as the drift fleet did not fish due to the Exxon Valdez oil spill and this influenced all other fisheries.

Alex,

Per our conversation here is a table below with ESSN closure dates and reasoning for closure. Let me know if there is anything else I can help with.

Table 1.–Season closing date and reason for closure by year in the Upper Subdistrict set gillnet fishery, 2005–2023.

Year	Last day of fishing	Closing date in regulation	1% rule (yes/no)	Reason for closing
2005	10-Aug	10-Aug	No	End of season
2006	9-Aug	10-Aug	No	End of season
2007	9-Aug	10-Aug	No	End of season
2008	7-Aug	15-Aug	No	Poor sockeye salmon run to Kenai River
2009	10-Aug	15-Aug	Yes	1% Rule
2010	12-Aug	15-Aug	No	End of season
2011	7-Aug	15-Aug	Yes	1% Rule
2012	13-Aug	15-Aug	No	End of season
2013	23-Jul	15-Aug	No	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River

Year	Last Day of Fishing		Closing date in Regulation	Reason for closing
	Kasilof	Kenai/EF		
2014	4-Aug	6-Aug	15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River
2015	10-Aug	12-Aug	15-Aug	1% Rule in Kasilof Section; End of Season in Kenai/EF
2016	9-Aug	9-Aug	15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River
2017	15-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug	End of season
2018	28-Jul	23-Jul	15-Aug	Late sockeye run to Kenai River
2019	3-Aug	3-Aug	15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River
2020	22-Jul	22-Jul	15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River
2021	20-Jul	20-Jul	15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River

2022	14-Jul	14-Jul	15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River
2023	Did not open		15-Aug	Poor late-run king salmon run to Kenai River

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Colton Lipka

Upper Cook Inlet Area Management Biologist

ADF&G, Commercial Fisheries

907-260-2907