

This is the Suquamish FinFish hotline for Thursday, July 18, 2024

For all salmon, halibut, ground fish and baitfish openings, you must read regulations online, on the Fisheries web page.

<https://suquamish.nsn.us/home/departments/fisheries/tribal-fishing-hunting/>

Commercial CHINOOK Openings:

The Suquamish Tribe's commercial Chinook fishery is tentatively scheduled to open in **Sinclair Inlet (Area 10E)** on July 21st. The schedule and regulations for this fishery will be as follows:

OPEN: 12 Noon, Sunday, July 21, 2024

7 days/week until further notice

CLOSE: 12 Noon, FRI, September 13, 2024

LEGAL GEAR:

BEACH SEINES: One hand-pulled beach seine per boat, max. length of 600 feet.

GILLNETS: Two hand-pulled set nets per boat; or one mechanically pulled drift net per boat, minimum stretch mesh of 6 1/4 inches;

LEGAL FISHING AREA:

SINCLAIR INLET: The Inlet is separated into 3 zones:

Zone #1: Defined as west of a line from the mouth of Gorst Creek to the northern-most set of pilings in front of the rock quarry marked by the "No Gillnet Fishing Boundary" sign (otherwise known as the Mud Flats): This SW portion of Sinclair Inlet will be open to hand-pulled beach seines AND gillnets/set nets ALL with a max length of 600 feet. Fishers are required to be "**actively working**" their gear during the tidal changes so that no stranding of gear or vessels occurs, otherwise if you or your gear gets stuck or left behind on the mud flats, expect a warning or citation (and may include gear seizure). Please remember the "One and Done Rule" adopted by Tribal Council regarding getting stranded on the mud flats: could mean loss of fishing privileges within this Zone for the rest of the season along with accompanying fines.

ZONE #2: From the "No Gillnet Fishing Boundary" piling in front of the rock quarry and due south to the mouth of Anderson Creek eastward to the sewage treatment plant on the HWY side and due south to Ross Point: open for all gear types: GN/SN with a max length of 900 ft and BS with a max length of 600 ft.

ZONE #3: From the sewage treatment plant due south to Ross Point eastward toward Pt Orchard and north to Illahee State Park and southeasterly toward Retsil Dock: Open to All gear: GN/SN with a maximum length of **1,800 ft**; Beach Seines with a max. length of 600ft. (A 1,000 ft closure remains in effect around the mouths of Blackjack and Ross Creeks for ALL gear types).

OTHER RESTRICTIONS:

- 1) That portion of Dyes Inlet north of the Mannette Bridge shall remain closed
- 2) The security zone around the naval shipyard shall remain closed as well as a 300 ft radius around any anchored vessel
- 3) With the exception of actively fished beach seines in the saltwater, a 1,000 ft radius closure, measured at mean low water around the mouth of all streams shall remain in effect; no fishing within the stream channel is permitted at any time (this includes chasing or herding fish downstream out of the stream into nets or knowingly fishing in freshwater)
- 4) Setnets shall not be attached to or left on piers, docks, bulkheads or channel markers without prior permission of the owners or Tribal Fisheries Department.
- 5) ALL actively fished nets must be clearly marked on both ends with the Fisher's Tribal identification number and have a properly functioning jacklight attached to at least one end of the net for drift GN (opposite end from the fishing vessel) OR two lights for SN (one on either end) if set out overnight
- 6) A distance of 200 ft must be maintained between individual gillnet sets: nets may NOT be attached to one another
- 7) Only one vessel per tribal member is eligible for mitigation moorage at the Port Orchard Marina.
- 8) All tribal vessels moored in Port Orchard Marina must be actively fished.
- 9) No "live-a-board" vessels are authorized at any mitigation moorage marina.
- 10) Tribal vessels utilizing mitigation moorage must be able to get underway using their own power.
- 11) Tribal fishermen should report any and all encounters with marine mammals to the Tribal Fisheries Office, especially if one is shot during catch/net protection or accidentally caught in a net
- 12) Additional net identification marking rule: Set nets: every tenth cork shall be labeled with the fisher's ID number; Drift nets: Every 100th cork or float shall be labeled with the fisher's ID number and be able to get underway using their own power.

Commercial Sockeye Openings:
NO scheduled openings currently

An update on the status of Fraser River Sockeye for 2024:
The 2024 forecast is projecting a dismal return for all Fraser sockeye stocks, so all signs thus far are negative for a commercial fishing opportunity. Fraser Update mtgs will be ongoing in the weeks to come. Stay tuned for further updates regarding this fishery as more information becomes available.

Commercial COHO Openings:
NO scheduled openings currently

Commercial CHUM Openings:
NO scheduled openings currently

**As a reminder ALL catches should call/TXT in their catch daily to 360-340-0325 and please include all Take Home fish at the bottom of their commercial fish ticket.
Thank you!**

Subsistence Fisheries:
Please call the fisheries office for information on subsistence fisheries. (360) 394-8445

As a reminder Fishermen should call in their catch daily. Thank you!

Subsistence Fisheries:

There are Fresh and Saltwater Subsistence Fisheries opportunities open for currently enrolled SUQ Tribal Members with a validated fisheries identification card. Please call the SUQ Fisheries Office at 360-394-8438/8450 more the specifics on these fisheries.

Saltwater:

ROCKFISH: Harvest of bottomfish for subsistence purposes shall be subject to the following restrictions and daily bag limits;

- 1) Lingcod, all open areas - 4 lingcod per fisher per day.
- 2) Rockfishes, all open areas - Open year round, 4 fish daily bag limit
- 3) Areas 26B, 26C closed to the harvest of pacific cod.
- 4) Flounders, dabs and sole, all open areas - 6 fish daily bag limit

5) The following areas are closed due to human health concerns associated with the consumption of resident fishes:

a) That portion of area 26C west of a line projected from the cable crossing sign at point Herron 90 degrees SW to the cable crossing sign at landfall near Waterman.

b) That portion of 26B west of a line projected from Wing point to the entrance light at Eagle Harbor.

SALMON: Tribal members are permitted to take up to 6 salmon per day in Areas 6,7, 7A, 9, 10, 10A, and 10E.

LEGAL GEAR: Hook and line (rod and reel with no more than two (2) hooks)

General Saltwater Sportfishing for cutthroat trout, smelt, and other game or food fish is also open through the end of the year.

Freshwater:

Freshwater subsistence is open for tribal fishers in all Westside lakes, streams, and rivers. Fishers must follow Washington State Fish & Wildlife rules and regulations for ALL freshwater systems as outlined in the most current year's recreational fishing pamphlet available at the Fisheries office. A valid tribal ID and fishing sticker must be in possession at all times. Per the Tribal Fishing Ordinance, any subsistence catch must be reported to the Fisheries Office at 394-8445.