



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For Release NOVEMBER 23, 1958

ADDITIONAL HEARINGS ON FISHING REGULATIONS TO BE HELD IN SIX ALASKA COMMUNITIES

In accordance with instructions received from Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton on November 19, the Department of the Interior announced today that six additional public hearings on the 1959 Alaska fishing regulations will be held in Alaska.

Thus, in accordance with past practice, hearings will be held in eight fishing communities in Alaska and in Seattle, Washington, on these proposed regulations.

The original announcement scheduled hearings in Seattle on December 4, 5, and 6; in Juneau on December 10, 11, and 12; and in Anchorage on December 17, 18, and 19. The additional Alaska hearings for Kodiak, Dillingham, Cordova, Sitka, Wrangell, and Ketchikan, will be held during the period from January 5 to 12. announcement will be made locally of the place and time of the hearings.

Secretary Seaton on November 8 instructed the Fish and Wildlife Service to propose the elimination of fish traps in Alaska in order that the Department of the Interior could adjust its "actions as quickly as possible to the desires of the Alaskans in regard to the disposition of their natural resources." Every effort will be made to publish these 1959 Alaska fishing regulations as early as possible. The fishing season normally opens around May 1.

After visiting with many Alaskans on his current trip to Alaska--his fourth since he became Secretary of the Interior--Secretary Seaton informed the Bureau of commercial Fisheries that the keen interest and concern shown by Alaskans in their fishery resources, prompted him to expand the original schedule of public hearings. In these additional local hearings fishermen throughout Alaska will have an opportunity to discuss the fisheries conservation program and express their views in regulation changes needed for the coming year.

As announced by Secretary Seaton on November 8 in the annual Notice of Intention to adopt amendments to existing Alaska fishing regulations, all interested persons are invited to present their views in writing to the Director, Bureau of commercial Fisheries, or in person at the public hearings.

A copy of the notice to be published in the Federal Register is attached.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
(50 CFR, Parts 101-115)
Alaska Commercial Fisheries

Notice of Intention to adopt amendments to the existing regulations for the protection of the commercial fisheries of Alaska, amendment

A Notice of Intention to adopt amendments to the Alaska commercial fishery regulations was published in the Federal Register on November 14, 1958 (23 FR 8874).

It has been determined that the scheduled dates of hearings should be expanded in the public interest. Therefore, the dates as published in the original notice are hereby amended to read as follows:

Seattle, Washington	December 4, 5 and 6, 1958
Juneau, Alaska	December 10, 11 and 12, 1958
Anchorage, Alaska	December 17, 18 and 19, 1958
Ketchikan, Alaska	January 6, 1959
Kodiak, Alaska	January 6, 1959
Dillingham, Alaska	January 7, 1959
Wrangell, Alaska	January 8, 1959
Cordova, Alaska	January 9, 1959
Sitka, Alaska	January 12, 1959

Interested persons are hereby invited to participate in the adoption of amendments to the regulations by presenting their views, data, or arguments in writing to the Director, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., on or before January 22, 1959, or by presenting their views orally or in writing at a series of open discussions scheduled to be held as listed above.

Due to frequent adverse weather conditions in Alaska after the first of the year, those meetings scheduled after January 1, 1959, are subject to change. Any such change will be announced locally by the representative of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

(Sgd) Elmer F. Bennett
Acting Secretary of the Interior

November 22, 1958