

Stillaguamish Tribe Fishing Regulatory Overview

DATE: May 4, 2021

PURPOSE: To describe the 2021 Annual Salmon, Steelhead, White Sturgeon, and Crayfish Anticipated Fishery Season for the Stillaguamish Tribe.

SPECIES: Chinook, Pink, Coho, and Chum salmon. Steelhead. White Sturgeon. Crayfish

EFFECTIVE DATES: May 15, 2021 through April 30th, 2022. Regulations release by species at least 24 hours prior to fishery opening.

AREAS: The adjudicated U&A of the Stillaguamish Tribe, including:
Freshwater- Stillaguamish River and all lakes within the Tribe's U&A

LEGAL GEAR: Finfish fishing gear allowed includes: set and drift gillnets; spears; gaff hooks; hook and line. There shall be a maximum of three (3) nets allowed for each licensed fisher - either one (1) drift gillnet and two (2) set gillnets or three (3) set gillnets. River set nets shall be placed so that they do not cover more than one-half (1/2) of the distance across the wetted area of the stream channel and shall not exceed one hundred fifty (150) feet in length. River drift nets shall not exceed three hundred (300) feet in length. No river net shall be within two hundred and fifty (250) feet of another net on the same side of the river, or within two hundred and fifty (250) feet downstream or upstream of any creek or tributaries. No objects can be driven into the ground to anchor a fisher's boat or nets. All nets shall be lifted by the registered owners only; all nets must be lifted at least once every twelve (12) hours.

Shellfish (crayfish) legal gear includes, but is not limited to: shellfish pots, ring nets, star traps, collection by hand or hand dip nets, scuba or skin diving. Commercial shellfishers are limited to a maximum of 100 pots in use at any one time. Ceremonial and subsistence shellfishers are limited to ten pots or units of gear in use at any one time.

GEAR RESTRICTIONS BY SPECIES:

- Chinook: 6 inch minimum stretched mesh
- Coho: 5 inch minimum stretched mesh
- Chum: 5 3/4" minimum stretched mesh
- Pink: 5 inch minimum stretched mesh
- Steelhead: 5 inch minimum stretched mesh
- Sturgeon: Hook and Line only, single barbless hook.
- Crayfish: Any hand operated-instrument that penetrates the shell of the crayfish is expressly prohibited.

GEAR MARKING: All nets shall be legibly marked with the name of the tribal fisher and their tribal fishing identification number and shall be marked on each of three (3) corks on both ends. Directly attended drift nets shall be marked on at least one (1) buoy securely attached to said drift net. All unmarked nets and any fish found in them may be seized by law enforcement and subject to forfeiture by the tribe. Commercial shellfishers (crayfish) must have at least one marker on each line of pots in the water. The fisher's name and ID number must be legible on the marker.

CATCH REPORTING: All commercial harvest of salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and crayfish must be reported on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets. All eggs or other parts of fish sold under commercial fishing regulations must be recorded on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets. All ceremonial and subsistence (C&S) harvest of the aforementioned species must be reported directly to the Stillaguamish Natural Resources office where it will be recorded on Treaty Indian Fish Receiving Tickets.

All commercial and subsistence crayfish harvesters must maintain a harvest log provided by the Natural Resources Department. Within two hours of each harvest, fishers must record their name, water body where harvested, date, time, and the number or weight of crayfish harvested in the harvest log. Harvest logs must be submitted to the Shellfish Biologist by the 7th day of any month following a month with crayfish harvest activity (for example: log records for June should be turned in by July 7th).

REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION AND PERMITS: All persons engaging in fishing under Tribal regulation must have in their possession a Tribal fishing identification card for the Stillaguamish Tribe, and a valid Stillaguamish Tribal Fishing species permit for the specific fishery in which they are engaged. All fishers must comply with the Stillaguamish Tribe Fishing, Hunting and Gathering Code (Adopted May 14 2020, Resolution 2020/057).

SEASON: All Usual and Accustomed fishing grounds and stations of the Stillaguamish Tribe are closed to the taking of fish/shellfish unless specifically opened by Tribal Ordinance or by properly adopted annual or emergency regulations.

ANTICIPATED EFFORT: Up to ten (10) set/drift gillnetters in river; three (3) boats; one dozen (12) hook and line anglers.

ANTICIPATED FISHING PATTERN: Up to seven (7) days per week during Chinook management (Ceremonial), Pink management (Ceremonial & Subsistence), Crayfish management, and White Sturgeon management. Up to three (3) days per week during Chum management (Ceremonial & Subsistence). Up to five (5) days per week during Coho (Commercial) and Steelhead management (Ceremonial).

ANTICIPATED CLOSURES: Mainstem Stillaguamish River between river mile 14.0 (Danielson Hole) and the confluence of the North and South Forks. All of the South Fork Stillaguamish and associated tributaries. All of the North Fork Stillaguamish and associated Tributaries. All Mainstem Stillaguamish tributaries, including Pilchuck Creek.

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