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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: February 22, 2024

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**Prince William Sound Area
Walleye Pollock Pelagic Trawl Fishery
Bainbridge Section Closure
Emergency Order # 2-GF-E-06-24**

The directed walleye pollock pelagic trawl fishery in the **Bainbridge Section of Prince William Sound (PWS)** will close at **4:30 p.m. February 22.**

The directed walleye pollock pelagic trawl fishery in the PWS Inside District opened January 20 with a guideline harvest level (GHL) of 9.61 million lb. The Inside District is divided into three sections: Hinchinbrook, Knight Island, and Bainbridge with harvest from any section restricted to 60% of the GHL or 5.77 million lb. The *Prince William Sound Pollock Pelagic Trawl Management Plan* (5 AAC 28.263) specifies a 5% aggregate bycatch cap, and the department further apportions this by Emergency Order among five species groups with no more than 60% of any species group to be harvested from a single section. Based on processor reporting the 60% salmon bycatch cap of 2,307 lb in the Bainbridge section will be achieved.

Pollock fishing will remain open in the Knight Island section until the GHL or bycatch limits are achieved.

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