SEINE FISHERIES: All Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will be closed on Friday, August 16. A broad area fishing opportunity is anticipated for Saturday, August 17, with time and area to be announced on Friday, August 16. It is estimated that 3.15 million pink salmon were harvested in PWS on August 13. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through August 13 is estimated at 22 million CPF and 3.2 million cost recovery fish, for a total of 25.2 million fish. The 5-year odd-year average (2009–2017) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through August 13 is 44.5 million fish.

PWSAC recommends the AFK, CCH, and WNH SHAs, THAs, and corresponding hatchery subdistricts, remain closed in order to build broodstock.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Tuesday, July 30, and has collected approximately 97% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through Thursday, August 14. PWSAC currently estimates there are approximately 170,000–200,000 pink salmon within the AFK SHA and needs approximately 350,000 pink salmon for broodstock; 50,000–80,000 pink salmon within the CCH SHA and needs approximately 360,000 pink salmon for broodstock; 125,000–150,000 pink salmon within the WNH SHA and needs approximately 300,000 pink salmon for broodstock.

Preliminary contribution estimates from the 12-hour period on Monday, August 12 in the Southwestern District were 39% wild, 29% CCH, 20% AFK, and 12% WNH pink salmon.

Preliminary contribution estimates from the 12-hour period on Monday, August 12 in the Northern District were 55% CCH, 22% WNH, 21% wild, and 2% SGH pink salmon.

Preliminary contribution estimates from the 12-hour period on Monday, August 12 in the Eastern District were 86% wild, 9% CCH, and 5% SGH pink salmon.

Aerial surveys of the Eastern, Northern, and Southeastern districts were conducted on August 14 and indicated escapements are within the minimum expected for the date.

Copies of the updated regulation booklet, 2019–2021 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound, are available in the Cordova ADFG office.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Friday, August 16.
Announcement recordings are available for gillnet fisheries at 907-424-7535 and seine fisheries at 907-424-7345. In addition, announcement recordings are available in Anchorage at 267-2843.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address: cwrussell http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main (Prince William Sound and Copper River homepage).

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.

The department encourages commercial permit holders to renew their licenses early and to check their CFEC vessel registration stickers to make sure they are current.

The department also encourages permit holders to report observed violations to Wildlife Safeguard at 800-478-3377. Reports are anonymous and cash rewards may be paid for successful prosecution of violations.