

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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**Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #72**

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** Copper River District will remain closed to commercial drift gillnet fishing. The fishery is closed due to survey counts remaining below weekly escapement targets and due to drought conditions. For the week ending September 7, the Copper River Delta survey count was 15,915 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 21,447 – 44,904. The 2019 cumulative harvest through September 5 is approximately **77,000** including the **30,100** coho salmon harvested for the fishing period that closed September 3. This cumulative harvest is **79,000** fish below the recent 10-year average of 156,000 coho salmon harvested by this date.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** Bering River District will remain closed to commercial drift gillnet fishing. The fishery is closed due to survey counts remaining below weekly escapement targets and due to drought conditions. For the week ending September 7, the Bering River District survey count was 3,105 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 8,803 – 22,345. Preliminary harvest estimate from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, September 2 was 1,980 coho salmon with 9 deliveries reported.

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** Waters of the Ether Subdistrict and the WNH THA, excluding the WNH SHA, will remain open to **commercial drift gillnet only** for an additional **24 hours** starting at 8:00 pm Saturday, September 7. Additionally, waters of the Coghill District excluding the WNH SHA will open to **commercial drift gillnet only** for a **60-hour** period starting 8:00 am Monday, September 9. Preliminary harvest estimate from the 60-hour period that started on Monday, September 2 was 14,800 coho salmon with 65 deliveries reported.

**ESHAMY DISTRICT:** Eshamy District is closed for the season.

**SEINE FISHERIES:** This announcement will detail purse seine fishing periods commencing on **Sunday, September 8; Monday, September 9; Tuesday, September 10; and Wednesday, September 11.** The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through September is estimated at 44.2 million CPF and 4.1 million cost recovery fish, for a total of 48.3 million fish. The 5-year odd-year average (2009–2017) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through September 6 is 57.9 million fish.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of Eastern District, **south of a line from Entrance and Potato Point,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for **12-hour** periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Sunday, September 8; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Monday, September 9; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 10; and 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Wednesday, September 11.

**NORTHERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Perry Island Subdistrict will open to commercial purse seine fishing for **12-hour** periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Sunday, September 8; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Monday, September 9; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 10; and 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Wednesday, September 11.

**NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for **12-hour** periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Sunday, September 8; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Monday, September 9; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 10; and 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Wednesday, September 11.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Southwestern District excluding San Juan Subdistrict, and the AFK SHA and THA, will open to purse seine fishing for **12-hour** periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Sunday, September 8; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Monday, September 9; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 10; and 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Wednesday, September 11.

**MONTAGUE DISTRICT:** Waters of the Montague District will open to purse seine fishing for **12-hour** periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Sunday, September 8; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Monday, September 9; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 10; and 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Wednesday, September 11.

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Southeastern District will open to purse seine fishing for **12-hour** periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Sunday, September 8; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Monday, September 9; 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Tuesday, September 10; and 8:00 am until 8:00 pm Wednesday, September 11.

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 salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 11.**

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:

<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.