



## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: July 23, 2020*

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #34

**SEINE FISHERIES:** This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a SGH Pink salmon opportunity in Port Valdez on Friday, July 24. VFDA surveyed Port Valdez on Thursday, July 23 and indicated that broodstock needs are close to being met. **VFDA is recommending an opener within Port Valdez to harvest surplus SGH pink salmon.**

Recent aerial surveys of Eastern, Northern, and Southeastern districts indicated that pink and chum salmon counts are within expected ranges for the date, but new run entry has slowed. It is anticipated that future fishing opportunity directed on wild stocks will initially be limited to one to two days per week. **Time and area for future commercial fishing periods targeting wild stock pink and chum salmon will be dependent upon escapement, harvest, and effort.**

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters in the Eastern District, north of a line from 61° 02.855' N., 146° 44.204' W. to 61° 02.373' N., 146° 43.407' W. to 61° 02.992' N., 146° 39.165' W., will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, July 24.

**Waters of Port Valdez east of a longitude of 146°30.00' W., will be closed to commercial fishing during this period.**

**Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point will not be in effect during this fishing period.**

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** As previously announced, Waters of Port Wells and College Fiord, north of 60° 55.81' N., and east of a line from Pakenham Point (61° 00.45' N., 148° 04.85' W.) to 60° 55.81' N., 148° 10.92' W., will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fishing for a 38-hour period starting, from 6:00 am on Thursday, July 23 until 8:00 pm on Friday, July 24. Regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B)), will not be in effect during this fishing period. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.

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

**Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 11, 12, and 17 commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19**

**Health Mandates.** COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>.

**The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Friday, July 24.**

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, July 25.**

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.