



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 9, 2021

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #25

COGHILL DISTRICT: Additional fishing area is being provided in the Granite Bay and Esther subdistricts. Waters of Granite Bay Subdistrict **on the western side of Esther Island south of a latitude line at 60° 49.02' N.** will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 10. Waters of Esther Subdistrict east of **a longitude line at 148° 00.50' W.** will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 10. All other open area within the Coghill District will remain as previously announced.

PWSAC requests that the western portion of the Esther Subdistrict and the WNH SHA and THA remain closed through Sunday. PWSAC completed its preseason WNH chum salmon cost recovery goal, is currently conducting additional cost recovery, and is also in the process of securing broodstock. **In response to COVID-19, all PWSAC facilities are closed to the public until further notice.**

SEINE FISHERIES: VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 1 and has collected approximately 54% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 8. Cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Wednesday, July 8, resulted in an average weight of 3.1 pounds per fish and 14.7% female. VFDA cost recovery is continuing today. The next commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in the Eastern District will be contingent on VFDA cost recovery progress.

Preliminary harvest estimates from the period ending yesterday, July 8, in the Eastern District was 802,328 pink salmon with 144 deliveries reported.

Pink salmon contribution estimates from the Port Chalmers subdistrict, period ending June 30, was 34% SGH and 66% wild. Pink salmon contribution estimates from the AFK SHA and THA, period ending July 2, was 43% SGH and 57% wild.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Port Chalmers Subdistrict, **north of 60°12.56' N. lat. and east of a line from 60° 12.56'N., 147° 20.25'W. to 60° 20.00'N., 147° 14.30'W.,** will open to purse seine fishing for 36 hours beginning at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 10. A regular schedule of three fishing periods per week is anticipated to remain in effect until further notice. **Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will not be in effect until further notice.** A total of 320,000 chum salmon are forecast to return to Port Chalmers. Harvest estimates from the 48-hour period that ended on July 7 was 46,089 pink salmon, and 9,230 chum salmon with 43 deliveries reported.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: The AFK Hatchery **SHA** will open to purse seine fishing for **14 hours beginning at 6:00 am on Saturday, July 10.** A regular schedule of three fishing periods per week is

anticipated to remain in effect until further notice. **Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within the AFK Hatchery SHA will not be in effect until further notice.** A total of 150,000 chum salmon are forecast to return to AFK Hatchery. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 14-hour period that ended yesterday, July 8 was 12,662 chum salmon and 2,013 sockeye salmon with 8 deliveries reported.

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 Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, 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 COVID19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, July 10.

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.