



**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: July 13, 2021*

**CONTACT: Heather Scannell**  
**Finfish Area Management Biologist**  
**(907) 424-3212**

**Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #31**

**SEINE FISHERIES:** This announcement provides time and area for a purse seine fishing period targeting VFDA pink salmon on Wednesday, July 14.

Aerial surveys of Eastern, Northern and Southeastern Districts were conducted yesterday, July 12 and today. Observations from these surveys indicated that salmon escapements are below expected ranges. Additional wild stock fishing opportunities will be dependent on aerial survey assessments, harvest data, and effort.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Eastern District, **north of a latitude of 60° 57.00' N.**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, July 14. Waters of Port Valdez inside of a line from the brown oil boom container van located between Solomon Gulch Hatchery and Allison Point, along the outermost yellow SERVS buoys around Solomon Gulch Hatchery to the brown oil boom container east of the hatchery between VFDA and PetroStar will be CLOSED to commercial fishing during this period. **All waters of Galena Bay south of 60° 57.00' N., will be closed to commercial fishing during this period.** Harvest from the period closing yesterday, July 12, was approximately 2.9 million pink salmon with 267 deliveries reported.

Waters within 200 yards of the AMHS Valdez Ferry Terminal are closed to commercial fishing when the ferry is arriving and departing. All waters of the Valdez small boat harbors and within 50 yards of the entrance to the harbors are closed to commercial fishing. Waters within the Alyeska Marine Terminal (Trans-Alaska Pipeline System) Security Zone are closed to commercial fishing. **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.**

**Waters inside of the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement. Waters closed for this period include the following areas:**

- (1) **Sawmill Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.71' N. lat., 146°46.44' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.58' N. lat., 146°47.07' W. long.
- (2) **Jack Bay:** waters south and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.34' N. lat., 146°35.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.17' N. lat., 146°39.77' W. long.;

**\*\*The City of Valdez has requested that purse seiners be advised that there is an underwater outfall pipe located at 61° 6.982'N, 146° 16.844'W.**

**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 Wednesday, July 14. 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.** Harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that ended on July 11 are confidential.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** The AFK Hatchery SHA will open to purse seine fishing for 24 hours beginning at 8:00 am on Wednesday, July 14. 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.** Harvest estimates from the 14-hour period that ended on July 10 was 11,030 chum salmon with 7 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 Wednesday, July 14.**

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.

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