



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: August 2, 2021

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

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #56

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Tuesday, August 3.

VFDA has recommended that a portion of the Port of Valdez be opened for commercial fishing. A brood survey for today, August 2, found approximately 400,000 pinks near the hatchery. VFDA will continue to monitor brood recruitment and assess for opportunity to provide additional common property fisheries on VFDA pink salmon.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 26, and has collected approximately 19% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Female percentages harvested on July 31 were 20% from AFK, 14% from WNH, and 12% CCH; average weights were approximately 2.5 lbs. Cost recovery fishing at AFK, WNH, and CCH continues today.

Preliminary harvest from the fishing periods on August 1, are as follows:

- Eastern District: 638,867 pink salmon with 74 deliveries reported.
- Northern District: 421,687 pink salmon with 72 deliveries reported.
- Coghill District: 59,720 pink salmon with 30 deliveries reported.
- Northwestern District: 39,243 pink salmon with 7 deliveries.
- Southwestern District: 544,636 pink salmon with 57 deliveries reported.
- Southeastern District: 188,257 pink salmon with 16 deliveries reported.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 3. **All waters of Port Valdez east of 146°33.00' W. longitude will be closed to commercial fishing during this period.**

Waters inside the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure escapement:

- (1) **Galena Bay:** waters east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.87' N. lat., 146°39.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.55' N. lat., 146°39.65' 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.;
- (3) **Sawmill Bay:** north of a line from a marker on shore 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.;

(4) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, **excluding waters of the Perry Island Subdistrict,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, Tuesday, August 3.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding waters of the Esther Subdistrict and waters of the WNH SHA and THA,** will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 3.

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 harvest for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, August 4. Regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B)), will not be in effect for this fishing period. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, Tuesday, August 3.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 3.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 3.

In response to COVID-19, all PWSAC facilities are closed to the public until further notice.

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 p.m. Wednesday, August 4. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 4.

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.