



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 12, 2021

CONTACT: Jeremy Botz and Heather Scannell

**Finfish Area Management Biologists
(907) 424-3212**

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #64

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement provides time and area for a commercial purse seine fishing opportunity on Friday, August 13. VFDA began their egg-take on August 9 and are approximately 9% complete versus an anticipated 50-55% complete. Future opportunities targeting VFDA pink salmon will be dependent on run entry and broodstock acquisition.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 26, and has collected approximately 91% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Run entry has continued to improve and cost recovery fishing will resume on Saturday. Female percentages from industry sampling of cost recovery fish harvested on August 11 were 28% from CCH and 37% from AFK.

Recent preliminary contribution estimates are as follows:

- Northern District on August 3: 42% CCH, 20% WNH, 10% SGH, and 27% wild.
- Southwestern District on August 1: 13% SGH, 13% WNH, 7% AFK, 5% CCH, and 62% wild.

5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters. Unless otherwise specified all regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures are in effect.

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 Friday, August 13. Waters of the Port of Valdez, east of the longitude of 146°37.00' W. will be closed for 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) **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, Cannery Creek Subdistrict, and CCH SHA and THA,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, August 13. **The waters of Hidden Bay, west of the longitude of 148°6.10' W. will be open during this period.** Anadromous stream closures within Hidden Bay will not be in effect during this fishing period.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding waters of the Esther and Granite Bay Subdistricts 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 Friday, August 13.

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 Saturday, August 14. Regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B)), will not be in effect for both fishing periods. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southwestern District, **excluding waters of the San Juan Subdistrict and waters of the AFK THA and SHA**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, August 13. Anadromous stream closures within the Port Elrington Subdistrict will not be in effect during this fishing period.

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. Saturday, August 14. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 18.

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.