## **Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director**

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## Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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## **Advisory Announcement**

For Immediate Release: August 14, 2021

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## Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #65

<u>SEINE FISHERIES</u>: This announcement provides time and area for a commercial purse seine fishing opportunity on Sunday, August 15. It is anticipated that there will a broad area commercial fishing period on Monday, August 16, with time and area specifics announced tomorrow, August 15.

VFDA anticipates adequate broodstock escapement at SGH and has recommended that a portion of the Port of Valdez be opened to commercial fishing.

It is anticipated that PWSAC will complete cost recovery fishing today, August 14, and they have recommended a clean-up at all their facilities.

Preliminary harvest estimates from fishing periods occurring on August 12 are as follows:

- Eastern District: 452,160 pink salmon with 72 reported deliveries.
- Northern District: 352,292 pink salmon with 41 reported deliveries.
- Coghill District: 510,117 pink salmon with 83 deliveries reported.
- Northwestern District: 59,654 pink salmon with 9 deliveries reported.
- Montague District: 643,465 pink salmon with 43 deliveries reported.
- Southeastern District: 63,344 pink salmon with 12 deliveries reported.

Preliminary harvest estimates from fishing periods occurring on August 13 are as follows:

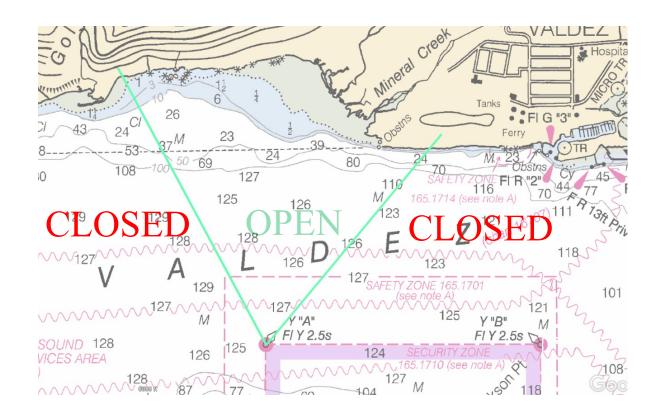
- Eastern District: 121,703 pink salmon with 21 reported deliveries.
- Northern District: 471,908 pink salmon with 48 reported deliveries.
- Coghill District: 10,331 pink salmon with 24 deliveries reported.
- Southwestern District: 2,056,369 pink salmon with 151 deliveries reported.

Recent preliminary contribution estimates are as follows:

- Eastern District on August 3: 49% SGH, 13% WNH, and 37% wild.
- Northwestern District on August 1: 17% WNH, and 83% wild.
- Southeastern District: 2% SGH, 2% CCH, 1% WHN, 1% AFK, and 94% wild.

Aerial survey assessments of wild stocks in the Coghill, Northwestern, Eshamy, Southwestern, and Montague Districts are anticipated to occur in the next couple of days.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District south of line from Entrance Point to Potato Point will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, August 15. Waters of the northern shore of the Port of Valdez, inside of a line from a point on shore at 61° 08.05' N., 146° 28.00' W. to the A buoy (61° 06.00'N, 146° 25.42' W.) on the western end of the Security Zone, to a point on shore at 61° 07.56' N., 146° 23.00' W., will be open during this period. Anadromous stream and regulatory closed waters will not be in effect for the area outlined in the Port of Valdez.



**NORTHERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Cannery Creek Subdistrict, and waters of the 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 Sunday, August 15. Anadromous stream and regulatory closed waters in the CCH Subdistrict will not be in effect for this fishing period, this includes waters in Jonah and Siwash Bays.

<u>COGHILL DISTRICT:</u> 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 Sunday, August 15. Anadromous stream and regulatory closed waters will not be in effect for this period.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** 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 Sunday, August 15. **Anadromous stream and regulatory closed waters will not be in effect for this 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: <a href="https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/">https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/</a>.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, August 15. 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.