## **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: July 14, 2022

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## Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #30

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** In addition to time and area previously announced, the waters of the Esther Subdistrict and the WNH THA and SHA will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 24-hour fishing period starting at 8:00 am on Friday, July 15.

PWSAC recommends opening the Esther Subdistrict and the WNH THA and SHA to evaluate chum salmon abundance. PWSAC requests that drift gillnetters in the WNH THA and SHA avoid the barrier seine and other PWSAC equipment in the area.

**SEINE FISHERIES:** This announcement corrects an error in the description of the Port Nellie Juan SHTF markers.

**NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT**: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, July 15.

Waters inside of the following Northwestern 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) <u>Culross Pass</u>: within the passage south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°45.47' N. lat., 148°12.63' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°45.82' N. lat., 148°13.57' W. long. and north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°37.48' N. lat., 148°10.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°37.16' N. lat., 148°11.42' W. long.;
- (2) <u>Cochrane Bay</u>: south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°44.91' N. lat., 148°17.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°46.01' N. lat., 148°21.77'W. long.;
- (3) **Port Nellie Juan**: south and west of a line from a shore marker approximately 60°30.36' N. lat, 148°15.03' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°32.36' N. lat., 148°19.42 W. long.;

Copies of the updated regulation booklet, 2022-2024 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound, are <u>not</u> yet available in the Cordova ADFG office. In the interim, please reference <a href="https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2022-2024\_cf">https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2022-2024\_cf</a> pws\_salmon\_regs.pdf.

ALL buyers purchasing fish in the PWS Management Area are required to complete a Processor Registration Form. Contact the Cordova office for any questions regarding registration.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm on Saturday, July 16. The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm on Saturday, July 16.

Permit holders are advised that unscheduled announcements based on current escapement data may occur at any time inseason either establishing an additional period or extending an open period.

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.