

Division of Commercial Fisheries  
Sam Rabung, Director

Cordova Area Office  
401 Railroad Ave.  
Cordova, AK 99574



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

PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
[www.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov)

## Advisory Announcement

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**CONTACT: Jeremy Botz**

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

### **Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery—2023 Allocation Plan (5 AAC 24.370)**

The *Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan* (5AAC 24.370) specifies that the set gillnet gear group allocation is 4% of the five-year average value of Prince William Sound Aquaculture Association (PWSAC)-produced salmon harvested in the commercial common property fishery. After set gillnet harvest values have been excluded, the drift gillnet and purse seine gear groups are each allocated 50% of the remaining value of PWSAC-produced salmon harvested in the commercial common property fishery. If the set gillnet gear group exceeds 5% of the five-year average value of PWSAC-produced salmon, they will be limited to no more than 36 hours of fishing time per week beginning July 10 in the year following this calculation. If the drift gillnet gear group harvest value is 45% or less, then in the year following the current calculations, the drift gillnet gear group shall have exclusive access to the Port Chalmers Subdistrict to harvest enhanced salmon returns from June 1 through July 30. If the purse seine gear group harvest value is 45% or less, then in the year following the current calculations, the purse seine gear group shall have exclusive access to the Esther Subdistrict to harvest enhanced salmon returns from June 1 through July 20 during fishing periods established by emergency order.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) calculated exvessel value percentages for each gear group using the Commercial Operators Annual Report (COAR) area-specific prices and weights and ADF&G harvest estimates of PWSAC-produced fish by species and gear type (Table 1). The trigger points for corrections in allocation are 45% for purse seine and drift gillnet gear groups and 5% for the set gillnet gear group. The five-year (2017–2021) average value percentages for each gear type are **44.4%** drift gillnet, **55.6%** purse seine, and **4.0%** set gillnet (Table 2). **As a result, the drift gillnet gear group will have exclusive access to the Port Chalmers Subdistrict from June 1 through July 30 in 2023.**

Table 1.–The 2021 COAR price per pound by gear type, species, and area.

2021 Species	Drift Gillnet		Purse Seine		Set Gillnet	
	Copper/Bering	Prince William Sound	Prince William Sound		Prince William Sound	
Chinook	\$14.37	\$10.04	\$1.56		\$5.10	
Chum	\$0.62	\$0.90	\$0.94		\$0.84	
Coho	\$2.00	\$1.89	\$1.26		\$0.25	
Pink	\$0.45	\$0.41	\$0.40		\$0.35	
Sockeye	\$3.53	\$1.97	\$2.27		\$1.91	

Table 2.–Values and percentages by gear type for Area E (*please note-* drift gillnet and purse seine percentages are calculated using values that exclude set gillnet).

Year	Drift Gillnet		Purse Seine		Set Gillnet	
	Value	Percentage	Value	Percentage	Value	Percentage
2017	\$18,746,118	43.6%	\$24,231,312	56.4%	\$1,657,029	3.7%
2018	\$24,386,998	58.6%	\$17,232,200	41.4%	\$1,779,424	4.1%
2019	\$17,589,144	44.3%	\$22,101,479	55.7%	\$2,217,133	5.3%
2020	\$6,078,011	39.6%	\$9,265,912	60.4%	\$896,931	5.5%
2021	\$13,292,185	32.5%	\$27,566,130	67.5%	\$893,088	2.1%
Total	\$80,092,456		\$100,397,034		\$7,443,605	
5-yr Average		44.4%		55.6%		4.0%