



## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: July 17, 2023*

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #29

**SEINE FISHERIES:** VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 3, and has collected approximately 90% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Fish sampled by VFDA from yesterday's CPF in the Valdez Narrows were 4.2 lb. average weight and 48% female. VFDA cost recovery is continuing today.

Aerial surveys of the Eastern, Northern, Coghill, Northwestern and Southeastern Districts were flown last week. This week all PWS seine districts will be included in the aerial survey schedule. Wild stock escapements trends are near or within anticipated levels for this date and a broad area fishing period is expected to occur on Thursday, July 20, with time and area announced on Wednesday, July 19.

Per 5 AAC 24.368(f) "seine gear may be used in the Esther Subdistrict for the purpose of preventing the deterioration of fish quality of the harvestable surplus of chum salmon that is not being adequately harvested by the drift gillnet fleet". Time and area in the Coghill District are being expanded to provide opportunity on WNH enhanced chum salmon. This adjustment does not impact the previously announced time and area for waters north of Pt. Pakenham in College Fiord.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Eastern District, north of the latitude at 60° 54.00' N, to a line from Entrance Point to Potato Point, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, July 18. **All waters north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point will be closed for this period.** Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period that occurred on July 16 are not yet available.

**Waters inside the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed to commercial fishing during this period to ensure early season escapement:**

- (1) **Jack Bay:** 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.;
- (2) **Sawmill Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker 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.
- (3) **Galena Bay:** 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.;

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** Waters of the WNH THA and SHA will open to commercial purse seine harvest for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Tuesday, July 18.

**The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 19.**  
**The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 19.**

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 907-267-2843.