



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 23, 2023

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #32

SEINE FISHERIES: PWSAC has recommended closures around their pink salmon facilities to begin building fish for cost recovery. To facilitate cost recovery efforts, time and area for future fishing opportunities will be based upon wild stock escapement, harvest contribution estimates and harvest/effort data.

VFDA estimates approximately 100,000 pink salmon are in the head of Port Valdez and they will continue to build and secure broodstock.

Aerial surveys of all purse seine districts are ongoing and stream escapements are within anticipated ranges for this time frame.

Recent preliminary contribution estimates are as follows:

- Eastern District on July 16: 93% SGH, and 7% wild.
- Coghill District (July 17-19): 95% wild, 3% WNH, 1% CCH, and 1% SGH.
- Eastern District on July 18: 92% SGH, and 8% 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, south of 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 Monday, July 24. Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period that occurred on July 22 were 1.94 million pink and 42,800 chum salmon with 193 reported deliveries.

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.;
- (4) **Landlocked Bay:** waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (5) **Irish Cove:** south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°46.73' N. lat., 146°26.62' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°46.27' N. lat., 146°27.12' W. long.;

- (6) Port Fidalgo Subdistrict: waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.
- (7) St. Matthews Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°43.36' N. lat., 146°19.07' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°43.61' N. lat., 146°21.17' W. long.;
- (8) Olsen Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°43.46' N. lat., 146°10.14' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°43.21' N. lat., 146°13.97' W. long.;
- (9) Beartrap Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°45.13' N. lat., 146°06.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°44.51' N. lat., 146°04.57' W. long.; this includes all waters of Port Gravina and Beartrap Bay inside of this line;
- (10) Sheep Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°41.13' N. lat., 145°58.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°40.46' N. lat., 145°58.01' W. long.;

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, excluding the Cannery Creek Hatchery and Perry Island Subdistricts, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, July 24. Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period that occurred on July 22 were 113,000 pink salmon with 10 reported deliveries.

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

- (1) Eaglek Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°50.66' N. lat., 147°40.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°50.56' N. lat., 147°44.57' W. long.;
- (2) Wells Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.75' N. lat., 147°29.92' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°57.08' N. lat., 147°28.14' W. long.;
- (3) Cedar Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.46' N. lat., 147°27.03' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.03' N. lat., 147°26.39' W. long.;
- (4) Long Bay: north of a line from 60°57.63' N. lat., 146°13.50' W. long. to 60°57.01' N. lat., 146°15.47' W.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, excluding the WNH SHA and THA and the Esther Subdistrict, will open to purse seine and drift gillnet harvest for a 14-hour period starting at 6:00 am on Monday, July 24. Regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B), will not be in effect until further notice. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.

Waters inside the following Coghill District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure escapement:

- (1) Bettles Bay: west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.16' N. lat., 148°14.76' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°54.97' N. lat., 148°16.09' W. long.;
- (2) Hummer Bay: west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°53.56' N. lat., 148°16.62' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°51.76' N. lat., 148°17.52' W. long.;
- (3) Pigot Bay: west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°49.96' N. lat., 148°19.07' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°49.08' N. lat., 148°20.12' W. long.;

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 14-hour period starting at 6:00 am on Tuesday, July 25. Regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B), will not be in effect until further notice. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.

The Coghill River weir has passed 55,790 sockeye salmon through 7/22 with a cumulative target of 18,882–70,819 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period that occurred on July 22 were 67,000 pink, 11,700 chum, and 450 sockeye salmon with 17 reported deliveries.

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 Monday, July 24.

Waters inside the following Northwestern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure escapement:

- (1) **Cochrane Bay:** 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.;
- (2) **Culross Pass:** 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.;
- (3) **Port Nellie Juan:** south and west of a line from a shore marker at 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.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southwestern District, excluding the Point Elrington and San Juan Subdistricts and the AFK SHA and THA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, July 24. Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period that occurred on July 22 were 359,000 pink salmon with 34 reported deliveries.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District, excluding the Port Chalmers Subdistrict, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, July 24. **Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures in the Montague District, excluding Port Chalmers Subdistrict, are in effect until further notice.**

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, July 24.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Tuesday, July 25.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 26.

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.