

Division of Commercial Fisheries  
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## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: August 2, 2023*

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #37

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 3 for a 60-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period.

The grass bank marker line is defined in 5 AAC 24.350(1)(A) with the exception of this year's extension of the closure line across Little Softuk (**see bold font below**). This closure line is defined with the following points:

<i>Point</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
Point Whitshed South	60° 26.49' N.	145° 52.86' W.
Alaganik Slough North	60° 24.65' N.	145° 36.70' W.
Pete Dahl East	60° 20.44' N.	145° 29.14' W.
West Kokenhenik	60° 14.88' N.	145° 10.01' W.
East "East Side"	60° 14.83' N.	145° 03.36' W.
Coffee Creek East	60° 14.19' N.	144° 58.01' W.
Charlie Mohr North	60° 15.15' N.	144° 56.43' W.
Martin River North	60° 15.29' N.	144° 52.52' W.
Strawberry Reef	60° 13.93' N.	144° 50.66' W.
Little Softuk	60° 13.16' N.	144° 41.38' W.

Waters north of this line, within sloughs, and in Boswell Bay within the bay (5 AAC 24.350 (1)(A)) are closed to commercial and subsistence salmon fishing during all periods.

For the week ending July 15, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 62,395 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 31,424 – 74,276. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 60-hour period that started on Thursday, July 27 were 6,990 sockeye and 3,310 pink salmon with 63 deliveries reported. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 10,400 Chinook and 847,000 sockeye salmon.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** The Bering River District will open to commercial salmon fishing, west of a longitude line at 144° 33.60' W., for a 60-hour period starting at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 3.

**ESHAMY DISTRICT:** The MBH SHA and AGZ will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, August 3. The AGZ will open to SET GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Friday, August 4.  
The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Friday, August 4.

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.