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Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #39

SEINE FISHERIES: PWS purse seine fisheries will be closed on Tuesday, August 8. The next broad area fishing period will be on Wednesday, August 9 with time and area announced tomorrow. PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on July 25, and has collected approximately 35% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. PWSAC cost recovery is continuing today.

Through August 6, there have been approximately 25.70 million pink salmon harvested in PWS common properties fisheries. This harvest is composed of 16.57 million VFDA, 2.60 million PWSAC, and 6.55 million wild pink salmon. Currently the wild stock pink salmon run is approximately 57% complete (Figure 1).

VFDA estimates about 375,000 fish near the hatchery. Egg-take operations at VFDA began on August 4.

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

Harvest estimates from the fishing periods that occurred on August 5 are as follows:

- Eastern District: 658,000 pink and 29,000 chum salmon with 75 reported deliveries
- Northern District: 743,000 pink and 2,000 chum salmon with 85 reported deliveries
- Coghill District: 82,300 pink and 3,720 chum salmon with 34 reported deliveries
- Northwestern District: 31,500 pink salmon with 5 reported deliveries
- Montague District: 183,000 and 4,930 chum salmon with 16 deliveries
- Southeastern District: 212,000 pink and 4,850 chum salmon with 17 reported deliveries

Recent preliminary otolith contribution estimates are as follows:

- Northern District on July 27: 33% SGH, 28% CCH, 7% WNH, 1% AFK and 30% wild
- Northern District on July 30: 46% CCH, 18% WNH, 7% SGH, 5% AFK, and 24% wild
- Northern District on August 2: 44% CCH, 12% SGH, 10% AFK, 8% WNH, and 25% wild
- Southwestern District on July 27: 48% AFK, 10% SGH, 9% WNH, 6% CCH, and 26% wild
- Eastern District on August 2: 33% SGH, 2% CCH, and 65% wild

Please note the sample size for the following preliminary estimate represents less than 30% of the total commercial harvest. Preliminary estimates are awaiting additional samples from Valdez to be considered complete and these estimates may change when sampling is complete:

- Montague District on August 2: 49% wild, 19% SGH, 12% CCH, 12% AFK and 7% WNH

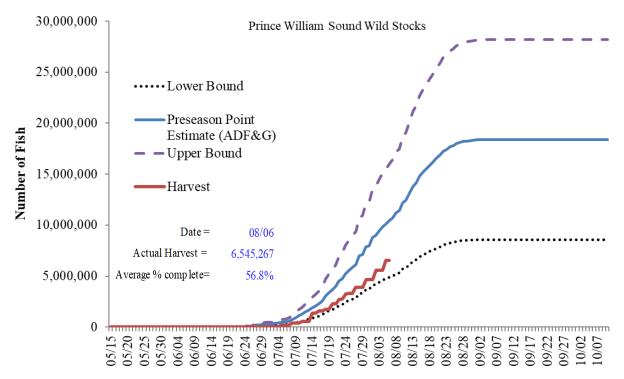


Figure 1.- Wild stock harvest forecast compared to cumulative wild stock harvest. Timing based on recent 5 odd-year harvests.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Tuesday, August 8. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, August 9.

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.