



Advisory Announcement

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CONTACT: Heather Scannell and Jeremy Botz
Finfish Area Management Biologists
(907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #41

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 10 for a 36-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. Additionally, the Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, August 14 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The Copper River District will switch to coho salmon management starting Monday, August 14. The standard management strategy for coho salmon is one or two 24-hour periods per week depending on escapement and harvest levels.

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 August 12, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 29,025 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 26,465 – 62,553. Observational conditions during this survey were fair. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 60-hour period that started on Thursday, August 3 were 3,070 sockeye, 400 coho, and 4,650 pink salmon with 26 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that started on Monday, August 7 were 660 sockeye and 380 coho salmon with 7 deliveries reported. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 3,730 coho and 853,000 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 36-hour period starting at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 10. Additionally, the Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, August 14 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The standard management strategy for coho salmon in the Bering River District is to fish

concurrent fishing time with the Copper River District. For the week ending August 12, the actual Bering River District survey count was 1,525 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 4,301 – 9,462. Observational conditions during this survey were poor.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: The Eshamy District will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 14. The AGZ will open to SET GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period. The Eshamy River weir has passed 2,799 sockeye salmon through 8/8 with a cumulative target of 4,445–9,574 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 7 were 1,100 sockeye, 17,300 pink, and 740 chum salmon with 33 deliveries reported.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, August 16.

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.