



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #52

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, August 28 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. 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 26, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 2,960 coho salmon versus an anticipated range 16,147 – 33,807. Observational conditions during this survey were good. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 21 were 1,050 sockeye and 12,500 coho salmon with 146 deliveries reported. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 17,900 coho and 855,000 sockeye salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, August 28 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 26, the actual Bering River District survey count was 800 coho salmon versus an anticipated range 8,732 – 22,165. Observational conditions during this survey were good.

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 28. The AGZ will open to SET GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period. The Eshamy River weir has passed 10,469 sockeye salmon through 8/22 with a cumulative target of 9,702–20,896 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 21 were 150 sockeye, 6,620 pink, and 30 chum salmon with 12 deliveries reported.

SEINE FISHERIES: Due to a drop in participation, additional time and area to harvest surplus pink salmon is being announced for August 24 and 25. Fishermen are encouraged to confirm their market prior to fishing.

Egg-take operations at VFDA began on August 4 and as of yesterday they are 70% complete towards their egg-take goal.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, excluding the Cannery Creek and Perry Island Subdistricts, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm, on Thursday, August 24 and again on Friday, August 25.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southwestern District, south of the latitude of 60° 11.50' N and east of Point Helen (147° 46.27' W.), excluding waters of the AFK THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm, on Thursday, August 24 and again on August 25. Anadromous stream closures within the Point Elrington Subdistrict will not be in effect during this fishing period.

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

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, August 30.

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.