



## Advisory Announcement

*For Immediate Release: August 30, 2023*

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #54

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 4 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.
<b>Little Softuk</b>	<b>60° 13.16' N.</b>	<b>144° 41.38' W.</b>

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 9,298 – 19,468. Observational conditions during this survey were good. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 28 were 100 sockeye and 21,200 coho salmon with 151 deliveries reported. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 39,966 coho and 855,000 sockeye salmon.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 4 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. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 28 were 2,500 coho salmon with 12 deliveries reported.

**ESHAMY DISTRICT:** The Eshamy District will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 4. The AGZ will open to DRIFT GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period. The Eshamy River weir has passed 11,117 sockeye salmon through 8/29 with a cumulative target of 11,481–24,728 fish for the date. No harvest was reported for the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 28.

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** Harvestable surplus in the Coghill District is no longer predominately pink salmon and, per 5 AAC 24.370 (e)(5)(B), drift gillnet is anticipated to be the only legal commercial salmon fishing gear type for the remainder of the season. The Coghill District, excluding the WNH SHA and THA, will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 36-hour fishing period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 31. Additionally, the Coghill District, excluding the WNH SHA and THA, will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 36-hour fishing period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 4.

**SEINE FISHERIES:** Fishermen should confirm their market prior to fishing.

There will be potential opportunity to harvest surplus SGH coho salmon in Port Valdez on Tuesday, September 5. Time and area within Port Valdez will be announced on Friday, September 1.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Eastern District, south of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, beginning on Thursday, August 31 through Tuesday, September 5.

**NORTHERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Northern District, excluding waters of the CCH THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, beginning on Thursday, August 31 through Tuesday, September 5.

**NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, beginning on Thursday, August 31 through Tuesday, September 5.

**MONTAGUE DISTRICT:** Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, beginning on Thursday, August 31 through Tuesday, September 5.

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, beginning on Thursday, August 31 through Tuesday, September 5.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Southwestern District, excluding the AFK THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, beginning on Thursday, August 31 through Tuesday, September 5.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Friday, September 1.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, September 6.

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.