



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #33

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 15 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The Copper River District will switch to coho salmon management starting Thursday, August 15. 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 10, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 36,690 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 24,976 – 59,034. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 60-hour period that started on Monday, August 5 were 110 coho and 190 sockeye salmon with 3 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 48-hour period that started on Thursday, August 8 are confidential. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that started on Monday, August 12 were 800 coho and 130 sockeye salmon with 13 deliveries reported. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 1.40 million sockeye, 8,870 Chinook, 31,600 chum, and 2,130 coho salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open to commercial salmon fishing for a 24-hour period starting at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 15. 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 10, the actual Bering River District survey count was 7,000 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 4,301 – 9,462. The cumulative Bering River District harvest to date is 58,700 sockeye salmon.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: Wild sockeye, chum, and pink salmon run timing overlap is increasing and area is being reduced to provide for escapement in district streams and to allow for run entry to other districts. Waters of Eshamy Bay, west of a line from 60° 28.51'N., 147° 59.10'W. to 60° 27.94'N., 147° 57.87'W., will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 15. The Eshamy District will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, August 19. The AGZ will open to **SET GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 11,010 sockeye salmon through 8/13 with a cumulative target of 6,099–13,137 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Thursday, August 8 were 420 sockeye and 1,250 pink salmon with 11 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, August 12 were 730 sockeye and 7,512 pink salmon with 24 deliveries reported. The cumulative Eshamy District commercial harvest to date is 1.17 million sockeye, 73,700 chum, 95,500 pink, and 370 coho salmon.

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for commercial purse seine fishing opportunities in PWS on Thursday, August 15. The next commercial fishing opportunity following this period will depend on PWSAC coast recovery progress and broodstock recruitment.

Aerial surveys of all districts are ongoing, and escapement trends are within the expected ranges for this timeframe.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Friday, August 2, and has collected approximately 41% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Cost recovery fishing continues today.

Egg-take operations at VFDA began on August 4, and as of yesterday, they are 21% complete towards their egg-take goal.

Pink salmon contribution estimates from recent fishing periods are as follows:

- Eastern District: Period 7 – 85% wild, 8% SGH, 2% CCH, 3% WNH, and 2% AFK

5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters. Unless otherwise specified, all regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures are in effect. Alaska Fish Resource Monitor ([Alaska Fish Resource Monitor \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com)) has an interactive map highlighting approximate locations of cataloged anadromous streams.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, **south of the latitude of 60° 59.00' N. lat.,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 15.

Waters inside the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed to commercial fishing during this period to ensure early season escapement:

(1) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour fishing period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 15.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., on Thursday, August 15.

The next scheduled salmon seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, August 17.

The next scheduled salmon gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, August 21.

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.