



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #37

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 29 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 24, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 12,115 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 9,298 – 19,468. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Thursday, August 22 were 23,200 coho and 80 sockeye salmon with 153 deliveries reported. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 1.40 million sockeye, 8,870 Chinook, 31,600 chum, and 27,300 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 29. 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 24, the actual Bering River District survey count was 4,350 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 4,002 – 10,158. The cumulative Bering River District harvest to date is 4,130 coho and 58,700 sockeye salmon.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: 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 29. The Eshamy District will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, September 2. The AGZ will open to **SET GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 12,416 sockeye salmon through 8/27 with a cumulative target of 11,198–24,120 fish for the date. No harvest was reported for the 24-hour periods that started on Thursday, August 22 and Monday, August 26. The cumulative Eshamy District commercial harvest to date is 1.17 million sockeye, 73,700 chum, 98,700 pink, and 520 coho salmon.

The next scheduled salmon gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, August 31.

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.