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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: July 1, 2025 **CONTACT:** Jeremy Botz and Heather Scannell Finfish Area Management Biologists (907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #18

SEINE FISHERIES: VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Sunday, June 29, and has collected approximately 5% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Department sampling of pink salmon cost recovery harvest from yesterday, June 30, resulted in an average weight of 3.88 pounds per fish and 10.6% female. VFDA cost recovery is continuing today.

An aerial survey of the Eastern District was conducted on Friday, June 27, and a survey of the Eastern and Northern Districts is being flown today. Based upon current indices of run entry and escapement, a fishery targeting wild stocks is warranted. Wild stock run entry, escapement, and VFDA cost recovery progress will be monitored over the next couple of days, and a fishing period may occur as early as Friday, July 4, with time and area announced on Thursday, July 3.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: The AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will open to purse seine fishing for a 36hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, July 3. **Anadromous stream closures within the AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will not be in effect until further notice.**

Copies of the regulation booklet, 2022-2025 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound, are available in the Cordova ADFG office. Regulation booklets that include changes made at the December 2024 Board of Fisheries meeting are not yet available.

ALL buyers purchasing fish in the PWS Management Area are required to complete a Processor Registration Form. If you have any registration questions, contact the Cordova office.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Thursday, July 3. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 2.

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.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main</u> (Prince William Sound and Copper River homepage).