

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



## NEWS RELEASE

*Cora J. Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff R. Regnart, Director*



**Contact:**

Jeremy Botz, Gillnet Area Management Biologist  
Tommy Sheridan, Seine Area Management Biologist  
Amanda Wiese, Asst. Area Management Biologist  
Phone: (907) 424-3212 Fax: (907) 424-3235

Prince William Sound Area Office  
401 Railroad Avenue, PO Box 669  
Cordova, AK 99574-0669  
Date Issued: Thursday, July 10, 2014  
Time: 2:00 pm

### **Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #27**

**SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement provides time and area specifics for fisheries targeting VFDA pink salmon on Friday, July 11, and Saturday, July 12. Fishing opportunity targeting VFDA pink salmon may occur again on Sunday, with details provided at 2 pm on Saturday, July 12. Montague, Southwestern, and Unakwik district purse seine fisheries continue as previously announced.**

An aerial survey of Eastern and Northern district streams was flown yesterday. Early wild pink and chum salmon returns have begun in these districts, and fish are building near the streams. Stream escapements are slightly less than anticipated for the date. Salmon Harvest Task Force area closures will be continued as an intermediate conservation measure.

VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, June 23, and has collected approximately 87% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 8. VFDA reports that cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Tuesday, July 8 was approximately 95,100 fish with an average weight of approximately 3.35 pounds per fish and 48% female. ADF&G sampling of July 8 cost recovery harvest from Port Valdez resulted in an estimated 49% female.

Final harvest numbers for the July 9 purse seine fishery in Prince William Sound are unavailable at the time of this announcement; however, it is estimated that at least 1.5 million pink salmon were harvested. VFDA estimates remaining escapement needs of 527,000 pink salmon (181,000 for cost recovery and 346,000 for broodstock) through July 9. VFDA reports that cost recovery fishing is taking place today. **VFDA reports less broodstock escapement than is expected for the date, and has recommended area restrictions in Port Valdez.** Time and area for future commercial fishing periods will be based on consideration for VFDA escapement, harvest results from the July 11 and 12 fisheries, and wild stock escapement indices.

**EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for 14-hour periods, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, July 11, and Saturday, July 12. Waters of Port Valdez east of 146° 23.00' W Long., will be closed to commercial fishing during these periods.** Waters within the Alyeska Marine Terminal (Trans Alaska Pipeline System) Security Zone are closed to commercial fishing. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point will not be in effect during these fishing periods.

Fishery participants are advised of a fishing vessel currently beached onshore of the Mineral Creek Mooring Buoy. Salvage operations are taking place in the vicinity of this vessel.

**Waters inside of the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for these periods:**

- (1) **Sheep Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°41.13' N. lat., 145°58.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°40.46' N. lat., 145°58.01' W. long.;
- (2) **Beartrap Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°45.13' N. lat., 146°06.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°44.51' N. lat., 146°04.57' W. long.; **this includes all waters of Port Gravina and Beartrap Bay inside of this line;**
- (3) **Olsen Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°43.46' N. lat., 146°10.14' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°43.21' N. lat., 146°13.97' W. long.;
- (4) **St. Matthews Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°43.36' N. lat., 146°19.07' W. long. to a shore maker at approximately 60°43.61' N. lat., 146°21.17' W. long.;

- (5) Irish Cove: south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°46.73' N. lat., 146°26.62' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°46.27' N. lat., 146°27.12' W. long.;
- (6) Landlocked Bay: waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (7) Port Fidalgo Subdistrict: waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.
- (8) Galena Bay: east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.87' N. lat., 146°39.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.55' N. lat., 146°39.65' W. long.;
- (9) Jack Bay: south and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.34' N. lat., 146°35.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.17' N. lat., 146°39.77' W. long.;
- (10) Sawmill Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.71' N. lat., 146°46.44' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.58' N. lat., 146°47.07' W. long.

SHTF marker coordinates will also be available in the Cordova ADF&G office, and have been provided to area processors, VFDA and PWSAC for distribution to fishery participants. A copy of these coordinates may also be found on the ADF&G Web-site at the following address:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.salmon#/maps>

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT**: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for 14-hour periods, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, July 11, and Saturday, July 12.

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, July 12.**

Permit holders are advised that unscheduled announcements based on current escapement data may occur at any time inseason either establishing an additional period or extending an open period.

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 267-2843.**

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web addresses:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareacopperriver.main> (Copper River homepage) or  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main> (Prince William Sound homepage).

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.

The department encourages commercial permit holders to renew their licenses early and to check their CFEC vessel registration stickers to make sure that they are current. The department also encourages permit holders to report observed violations to Wildlife Safeguard at 800-478-3377. Reports are anonymous and cash rewards may be paid for successful prosecution of violations.