

# 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: Sunday, July 13, 2014  
Time: 12:30 pm

### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #29

**SEINE FISHERIES:** This is an update on fisheries targeting VFDA pink salmon. VFDA reports less broodstock escapement than is expected for the date, and has recommended that the fishery remain closed on Monday, July 14. Montague, Southwestern, and Unakwik district purse seine fisheries will continue as previously announced. Time and area for future commercial fishing periods targeting VFDA pink salmon will be based on consideration for VFDA escapement, and wild stock escapement indices.

VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, June 23, and has collected approximately 94% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 12. VFDA reports that cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Thursday, July 10 was approximately 96,700 fish with an average weight of approximately 3.44 pounds per fish and 59% female. ADF&G sampling of July 10 cost recovery harvest from Port Valdez resulted in an estimated 58% female. ADF&G sampling of July 11 CPF harvest from lower Valdez Arm resulted in an estimated 64% female. VFDA estimates remaining escapement needs of 426,000 pink salmon (80,000 for cost recovery and 346,000 for broodstock) through July 12. VFDA reports that cost recovery fishing is taking place today.

It is estimated that at least 1.5 million pink salmon were harvested in PWS on July 11, and 500,000 on July 12. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest to date is approximately 18.01 million CPF and 1.45 million VFDA cost recovery fish.

An aerial survey of Eastern and Northern district streams was flown last week. Stream escapements were slightly less than anticipated for the date. Aerial surveys for much of PWS are scheduled for the coming week.

ADF&G otolith contribution estimates for Eastern District CPF openers through July 9 result in a cumulative harvest composition of 99.2% hatchery and 0.8% wild stock pink salmon, with a cumulative wild stock harvest of approximately 96,600 pink salmon. 100% of hatchery pink salmon harvested in the Eastern District through July 9 are SGH fish.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Eastern District are closed to commercial fishing. The cumulative Eastern District commercial harvest to date is 24 Chinook, 6,750 sockeye, 302 coho, 14.01 million pink, and 44,310 chum salmon.

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Southeastern District are closed to commercial fishing. No harvest has been reported for the Southeastern District in 2014.

**The next scheduled purse seine salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Monday, July 14.**  
**The next scheduled gillnet salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 16.**

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.