ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #50

SEINE FISHERIES: An aerial survey of the Southeastern District and portions of the Eastern District was flown yesterday. Escapements do not warrant a directed wild stock fishery at this time.

PWSAC reports pink salmon escapement estimates at PWSAC facilities on August 11 as follows: 110,000–130,000 pink salmon in the AFK HEEZ; 120,000–160,000 in the CCH SHA; and, 165,000–200,000 in the WNH SHA. Pink salmon escapement goals for each facility are 309,000 pink salmon at AFK; 357,000 at CCH; and, 283,000 at WNH. The department flew an aerial survey of AFK, CCH, and WNH yesterday morning. **The PWS purse seine fishery and Coghill District gillnet fishery will remain closed until further notice. All other gillnet fisheries remain as previously announced.**

Future fishing opportunity targeting PWSAC pink salmon will be dependent upon hatchery escapement progress.

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