

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: Monday, August 25, 2014
Time: 2:00 pm

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #60

SEINE FISHERIES: The purpose of this announcement is to provide time and area specifics for PWS purse seine fisheries beginning on Tuesday, August 26, and ending on Wednesday, August 27. Future fishing opportunity targeting PWSAC pink salmon in hatchery subdistricts will be dependent upon hatchery escapement progress. PWSAC has provided area recommendations and requests for these fisheries.

PWSAC reports pink salmon escapement estimates at PWSAC facilities on August 25 as follows: 215,000–254,000 pink salmon in the **AFK HEEZ**; 200,000–260,000 in the **CCH SHA**; and, 158,000–225,000 in the **WNH HEEZ**. Pink salmon escapement goals for each facility are 309,000 pink salmon at AFK; 357,000 at CCH; and, 283,000 at WNH.

Through August 24, PWSAC reports eggtake progress of 48% towards the final goal at WNH, and 25% complete at AFK. Eggtakes are scheduled to begin at CCH on Tuesday, August 26.

Aerial surveys were flown for the entirety of PWS last week, under poor conditions. PWS pink and chum salmon stream escapements are within escapement goal parameters.

VFDA reports that the SGH egg take goal was accomplished on Wednesday, August 20. VFDA does not report a harvestable surplus available for commercial harvest, and has not recommended a Port Valdez pink salmon clean up fishery. The next commercial fishing opportunity in Port Valdez may occur starting on Tuesday, September 2, dependent on surplus coho salmon escapement at SGH.

It is estimated that 74,000 pink salmon were harvested in PWS on August 22, 57,000 on August 23, and 34,000 on August 24.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District, **excluding all waters of the WNH SHA**, will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. Drift gillnet harvest from the August 22–24 fishing periods includes 7,650 coho and 50,700 pink salmon, with 143 deliveries reported. Purse seine harvest from the August 22–24 fishing periods include 2,860 coho and 53,800 pink salmon, with 15 deliveries reported.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District south of Rocky Point will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. There was no harvest reported for the August 22–24 fishing periods.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. There was no harvest reported for the August 22–24 fishing periods.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, **excluding waters of the Cannery Creek Subdistrict north of 60°58.00' N., and excluding all waters of the CCH THA and CCH SHA**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. There was no harvest reported for the August 22–24 fishing periods.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. There was no harvest reported for the August 22–24 fishing periods.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. There was no harvest reported for the August 22–24 fishing periods.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: The Southwestern District, **excluding all waters of the AFK SHA**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 26, and Wednesday, August 27. Harvest from the August 22–24 fishing periods include 205 coho and 60,600 pink salmon, with 28 deliveries reported.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be published by 2:00 pm Wednesday, August 27.

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.