

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #65

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding the WNH THA and SHA, excluding the Esther Subdistrict, and excluding the Granite Bay Subdistrict**, will open to commercial drift gillnet fishing for a 12-hour commercial fishing period beginning at 8:00 am on Wednesday, September 3. Harvest estimates from the period that closed Tuesday, September 2 are not yet available.

SEINE FISHERIES: PWSAC reports pink salmon escapement estimates at PWSAC facilities on September 2 as follows: 109,000–142,000 pink salmon in the **AFK HEEZ**; 121,000–165,000 in the **CCH SHA**; and, 118,000–140,000 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. The WNH pink salmon eggtake goal was reached on Saturday, August 30. Through September 1, PWSAC reports eggtake progress of 75% towards the final goal at AFK, and 42% complete at CCH. PWSAC has provided area recommendations and requests for PWS purse seine fisheries scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

The 2014 coho salmon return to VFDA appears to be extremely weak. VFDA reports broodstock escapement at SGH of 500 coho salmon on September 2. The minimum broodstock requirement at SGH is 1,000 coho salmon. Port Valdez will remain closed until coho salmon escapement improves at SGH, and a harvestable surplus is available.

No purse seine harvest was reported in PWS for Sunday, August 31, and Monday, September 1.

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 Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

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 Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

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 Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

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 Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

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 Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: The Southwestern District, **excluding all waters of the AFK THA and AFK SHA**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour fishing periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 4.

The next scheduled salmon gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be published by 2:00 pm Wednesday, September 3.

The next scheduled salmon purse seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be published by 2:00 pm Thursday, September 4.

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=commercialbyareacopperiver.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.