

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: Wednesday, September 17, 2014
Time: 2:00 pm

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #71

SEINE FISHERIES: The 2014 PWS commercial purse seine fishing season will come to a close upon the completion of today's fishing periods. Time and area for these fishing periods remain as previously announced in Prince William Sound Salmon Fisheries News Release #70.

Otolith contribution estimates result in a total harvest (cost recovery and CPF) of 24.2 million SGH pink salmon. This is a record harvest for SGH pink salmon. The preseason total run forecast for SGH was 12.9 million pink salmon. VFDA reached its cost recovery goal on July 13. VFDA reached the pink salmon egg take goal at SGH on August 30.

Otolith contribution estimates result in the harvest (cost recovery and CPF) of 4.40 million AFK pink salmon, 5.06 million CCH fish, and 7.94 million WNH fish, for a total harvest of 17.4 million PWSAC pink salmon. The preseason total run forecast for PWSAC pink salmon was 21.2 million fish, including 7 million AFK, 4.9 million CCH, and 9.3 million WNH. PWSAC reached its cost recovery goal on August 2. PWSAC reached the pink salmon egg take goals at WNH and AFK on August 30, and September 5, respectively. PWSAC concluded pink salmon egg take operations at CCH on Saturday, September 13, having collected 181 million pink salmon eggs, or 97% of the 187 million egg goal.

Otolith contribution estimates result in a total harvest of 1.95 million wild stock pink salmon.

Including CPF (drift gillnet, set gillnet, and purse seine) harvest estimates, VFDA cost recovery fish, and PWSAC cost recovery fish, the cumulative 2014 PWS pink salmon harvest is approximately 43.6 million pink salmon.

The department thanks all PWS salmon purse seine fishery participants for their hard work and cooperation throughout the 2014 fishing season, and wishes all a safe and enjoyable offseason.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District has been closed to commercial purse seine fishing since August 29. The 2014 Coghill District commercial purse seine harvest was 918,000 pink, 7,680 coho, 299 chum, and 332 sockeye salmon. Through September 16, the 2014 Coghill District commercial drift gillnet harvest was 1.21 million pink, 130,000 coho, 671,000 chum, and 166,000 sockeye salmon.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District will close to commercial purse seine fishing for the 2014 season at 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 17. The 2014 Eastern District commercial harvest was 19.3 million pink, 2,000 coho, 87,700 chum, 9,470 sockeye, and 27 Chinook salmon.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will close to commercial purse seine fishing for the 2014 season at 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 17. The 2014 Montague District commercial harvest was 2.89 million pink, 873 coho, 179,000 chum, 10,900 sockeye, and 210 Chinook salmon.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District will close to commercial purse seine fishing for the 2014 season at 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 17. The 2014 Northern District commercial harvest was 4.99 million pink, 2,020 coho, 2,860 chum, 3,340 sockeye, and 4 Chinook salmon.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will close to commercial purse seine fishing for the 2014 season at 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 17. The 2014 Northwestern District commercial harvest was 70,700 pink, 139 coho, 5,880 chum, and 418 sockeye salmon.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will close to commercial purse seine fishing for the 2014 season at 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 17. The 2014 Southeastern District commercial harvest was 10,100 pink, 12,700 chum, and 4 sockeye salmon.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: The Southwestern District will close to commercial purse seine fishing for the 2014 season at 8:00 pm, on Wednesday, September 17. The 2014 Southwestern District commercial harvest was 8.78 million pink, 18,400 coho, 58,200 chum, 28,400 sockeye, and 114 Chinook salmon.

The next scheduled salmon gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be published at 2:00 pm Friday, September 19.

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.