

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #21

This announcement supersedes the Coghill District portion of the Saturday, July 4 announcement. All other previously announced gillnet and seine fisheries remain as announced.

GILLNET FISHERIES: PWSAC has achieved their aggregate revenue goal at WNH and MBH. Fishing time and area is being expanded in the Coghill District to provide fishing opportunity on enhanced chum salmon surplus to hatchery escapement needs.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The current fishing period in the Coghill District is being extended an additional 12 hours, 8:00 pm, Tuesday, July 7 to 8:00 am, Wednesday, July 8. Starting at 8:00 am, Tuesday, July 7, waters of the entire Esther Subdistrict and waters of the WNH THA will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 24-hour fishing period.

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide an update on VFDA cost recovery progress, along with advanced notice of PWS purse seine fishing opportunity anticipated for Wednesday, July 8. VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on June 30, and has collected approximately 71.5% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 5. VFDA reports that cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Saturday, July 4 was approximately 442,000 fish with an average weight of approximately 3.49 pounds per fish and 29.4% female. VFDA reports that cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Sunday, July 5 was approximately 364,000 fish with an average weight of approximately 3.37 pounds per fish and 20.8% female.

It is anticipated that there will be a commercial fishing period on Wednesday, July 8, in portions of Port Valdez and eastern Prince William Sound, with time and area to be announced on Tuesday, July 7.

The next scheduled purse seine salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to occur at 2:00 pm Tuesday, July 7. The next scheduled gillnet salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 8.

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).