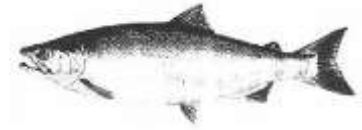


ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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401 Railroad Avenue, PO Box 669
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Date Issued: Monday, July 27, 2015
Time: 2:15 pm

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #42

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for commercial purse seine fishing opportunity targeting SGH pink salmon in **Port Valdez and Valdez Arm** on Tuesday, July 28, and Wednesday, July 29. All other previously announced seine fisheries remain as announced. It is expected that there will be a broad area commercial purse seine fishing period taking place throughout PWS on Thursday, July 30, with time and area to be announced on Wednesday, July 29.

VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Tuesday, June 30, and reached its cost recovery goal on July 24. VFDA reports that they have secured sufficient broodstock at SGH, and has recommended continued fishing opportunity in Port Valdez and Valdez Arm.

PWSAC began its pink salmon cost recovery program on July 25, and has collected approximately 152,000 pink salmon for cost recovery through July 26.

Test fishing in the Southwestern District on the R/V Sostice began on July 24, gauging pink salmon run entry and stock composition. The set size per sample location on July 26 ranged from 600 – 5,000 pink salmon. Daily catches in 2015 have been 245–302% the 2004–2014 average. Cumulative catch through July 26 is the second highest total for dates, trailing 2005.

It is estimated that 1.9 million pink salmon were harvested in PWS on Saturday, July 25, and 1.7 million on Sunday, July 26. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through July 26 is estimated at 39.6 million CPF and 2.1 million cost recovery fish (VFDA and PWSAC), for a total of 41.7 million fish; this is a record cumulative total for the date.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District **north of Black Point** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 14-hour periods, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, July 28, and Wednesday, July 29.

Waters of Port Valdez east of 146° 23.00' W. longitude will be closed to commercial fishing during these periods. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point and west of 146° 23.00' W. longitude will not be in effect during these fishing periods. Security zones in Port Valdez (in front of the Valdez Marine Terminal) and in the Valdez Narrows will continue to be enforced as detailed in Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #24, which was distributed on Wednesday, July 8. Waters inside of the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed during these periods:

- (1) **Galena Bay:** waters east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.87' N. lat., 146°39.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.55' N. lat., 146°39.65' W. long.;
- (2) **Jack Bay:** waters south and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.34' N. lat., 146°35.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.17' N. lat., 146°39.77' W. long.;
- (3) **Sawmill Bay:** waters north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.71' N. lat., 146°46.44' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.58' N. lat., 146°47.07' W. long.

The next scheduled purse seine salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to occur by 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 29.
The next scheduled gillnet salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 29.