

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #69

GILLNET FISHERIES: Fishery participants should assure a market before harvesting fish.

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: Copper River District will open for 60-hour fishing periods, starting at 7:00 am on Monday, September 28 and Thursday, October 1. For the week ending September 26, the actual Copper River delta survey count was 36,450 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 16,908 – 35,401. Harvest from the fishing period that closed Wednesday, September 23 was 2,160 coho and salmon with 21 deliveries reported.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: Bering River District will open for 24-hour fishing periods, starting at 7:00 am, Monday, September 28 and Thursday, October 1. For the week ending September 26, the actual Bering River District survey count was 14,650 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 5,041 – 12,797. Harvest from the fishing period that closed Tuesday, September 22 is confidential.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding all waters of the Esther Subdistrict, and excluding all waters of the WNH THA and SHA**, will open to commercial **drift gillnet** fishing for 60-hour commercial fishing periods, starting at 8:00 am, Monday, September 28 and Thursday, October 1.

The next scheduled gillnet salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to occur by 2:00 pm on Saturday, October 3.

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 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.