

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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**Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #50**

**SEINE FISHERIES:** Fishing opportunity in Eastern District on Tuesday, August 6 is detailed below. Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will be closed on Wednesday, August 7 to allow for additional broodstock collection at VFDA.

An estimated 265,000 pink salmon were harvested in PWS on Sunday, August 4. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through August 4 is estimated at 12 million CPF and 1.6 million cost recovery fish, for a total of 13.6 million fish. The 5-year odd-year average (2009–2017) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through August 4 is 31.2 million fish.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Tuesday, July 30, and has collected approximately 19% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through August 5.

**Current indices of escapement and run entry do not support a purse seine CPF targeting wild stocks in PWS.** Aerial surveys of the Eastern, Northern, Coghill, Northwestern, and Eshamy districts were conducted earlier this week and indicated improvement in wild stock escapements, but remain below the expected for the date. Aerial surveys indicated that salmon are holding offshore in many areas of PWS, but due to warm water and low stream flows salmon have not entered closed waters in sufficient numbers.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters in the Eastern District, north of a line from 61° 02.855' N., 146° 44.204' W. to 61° 02.373' N., 146° 43.407' W. to 61° 02.992' N., 146° 39.165' W., will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 6.

**Waters of Port Valdez east of 146°38.00' W. will be CLOSED to commercial fishing during this period.**

**Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point will not be in effect during this fishing period.**

Copies of the updated regulation booklet, *2019–2021 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound*, are available in the Cordova ADFG office.

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 7.**

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 address:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main> (Prince William Sound and Copper River 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.