

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES



NEWS RELEASE

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #54

ESHAMY DISTRICT: Eshamy District will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a **24-hour** period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 12. The AGZ will open to **DRIFT GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period. Preliminary harvest estimate from the 24-hour period that started on Thursday, August 8 was 600 sockeye and 7,000 pink salmon with 18 deliveries reported.

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will detail purse seine fishing periods commencing on **Monday, August 12.** Aerial surveys were conducted in the Eastern, Southeastern, Northern, Northwestern, Coghill, and Eshamy districts on August 9 and August 10 and wild stock indices were within the expected range for the date. Aerial surveys also showed significant movement of wild and hatchery pink salmon throughout PWS. **It is expected that there will be a regular schedule of broad area commercial purse seine fishing periods, with time and area being dependent upon escapement, harvest, PWSAC broodstock collection, and effort.**

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Tuesday, July 30, and has collected approximately 100% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through Sunday, August 11. ADF&G sampling of AFK cost recovery harvest from August 9 was 42% female; WNH cost recovery harvest from August 9 was 39% female.

PWSAC recommends the AFK, CCH, and WNH SHAs, THAs, and corresponding hatchery subdistricts, except the Pt. Elrington and Cannery Creek subdistrict, remain closed in order to build broodstock.

All regulatory closed waters and all anadromous stream closures are in effect unless otherwise stated.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, **south of a line from Entrance and Potato Point,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12.

Waters inside the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period:

- (1) **Sheep Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°41.13' N. lat., 145°58.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°40.46' N. lat., 145°58.01' W. long.;
- (2) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, **excluding the Perry Island Subdistrict, and the CCH SHA and THA**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding Esther Subdistrict, Granite Bay Subdistrict, and WNH SHA and THA**, will open to **commercial drift gillnet and purse seine** fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Point Elrington Subdistrict will open to purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12. **The Southwestern District Priority Stream list will be in effect within waters of Point Elrington Subdistrict.**

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 12.

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 seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Monday, August 12.

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:
cwrussell
<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.