# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
# DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE

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Date Issued: Sunday, August 18, 2019
Time: 12:15 pm

**Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #61**

**SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will detail purse seine fishing periods commencing on Monday, August 19.** It is estimated that 2.5 million pink salmon were harvested in PWS on August 17. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through August 17 is estimated at 28 million CPF and 3.2 million cost recovery fish, for a total of 31.2 million fish. The 5-year odd-year average (2009–2017) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through August 17 is 49.5 million fish.

**PWSAC recommends the AFK, CCH, and WNH SHAs, THAs, and corresponding hatchery subdistricts, remain closed in order to build broodstock.** PWSAC currently estimates there are approximately 230,000–260,000 pink salmon within the AFK SHA and needs approximately 350,000 pink salmon for broodstock; 75,000–100,000 pink salmon within the CCH SHA and needs approximately 360,000 pink salmon for broodstock; 165,000–175,000 pink salmon within the WNH SHA and needs approximately 300,000 pink salmon for broodstock.

Aerial surveys indicate that warm water and low stream flows have led to salmon staging in stream mouths and bays across PWS. Due to drought conditions staging salmon needed for stream escapement are vulnerable to harvest. Please be aware of stream markers, regulatory closed waters, and anadromous stream closures.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Eastern District, **south of a line from Entrance and Potato Point and north of 60°57.00' N.,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 19.

**NORTHERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Northern District, **east of 147°31.15 W.,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 19.

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

(1) **Long Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°57.63' N. lat., 147°13.50' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°57.01' N. lat., 147°15.47' W. long.;

(2) **Granite Bay:** north and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°55.02' N. lat., 147°27.61' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°54.66' N. lat., 147°26.72' W. long.;

(3) **Cedar Bay:** north and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.46' N. lat., 147°27.03' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.03' N. lat., 147°26.39' W. long.;

**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 19.

**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 19.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** Waters within 1 nautical mile of Latouche Island east of Pt. Grace and east of the southern tip of the Latouche Island, and waters south (60°1.8' N) and west (148°18.9' W) of Point Pyke will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 19.

**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 19.

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Due to observed fuel sheen, waters of the Southeastern District east of 145°59.9' W, will be closed to commercial fishing this period.** Waters of the Southeastern District west of 145°59.9' W will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, August 19.

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 19.**

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.