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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: July 2, 2021 CONTACT: Jeremy Botz Finfish Area Management Biologist (907) 424-3212

## Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #21

**<u>COGHILL DISTRICT</u>**: Coghill River sockeye salmon passage has increased rapidly over the last two days and additional time and area are being provided to target harvestable surplus. Waters of Port Wells and College Fiord, north of  $60^{\circ}$  55.81' N., and east of a line from Pakenham Point ( $61^{\circ}$  00.45' N., 148° 04.85' W.) to  $60^{\circ}$  55.81' N., 148° 10.92' W., will remain open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for an additional **24-hours** starting at 8:00 pm on Saturday, July 3. Effective immediately, regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B)), will not be in effect for the remainder of this fishing period. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide. As of July 1, 16,494 sockeye salmon have passed the Coghill River weir versus a cumulative anticipated range of 5,543 – 16,628 fish.

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <a href="https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/">https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/</a>.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, July 3.

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:

<u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main</u> (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.

Coghill District – Port Wells and College Fiord line.

