



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 15, 2021

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #34

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement provides time and area for a purse seine fishing period targeting VFDA pink salmon on Friday, July 16. An estimated 662,993 pink salmon were harvested in PWS on Wednesday, July 14. VFDA is recommending a closure within Port Valdez on Saturday, July 17 to evaluate fishery performance data.

Based on recent aerial surveys wild stock pink salmon stream escapement is below expected levels in the Eastern, Northern, Northwestern, Eshamy, and Southeastern Districts. Aerial surveys of all districts are ongoing throughout PWS. Broader area fishing opportunity targeting wild stocks may occur as early as Sunday, July 18 or Monday, July 19 pending wild stock run strength from ongoing aerial surveys.

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 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, July 16.

Waters of Port Valdez east of a longitude of 146°23.00'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.

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: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, July 17.

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.