



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 19, 2021

CONTACT: Heather Scannell
Finfish Area Management Biologist
(907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #38

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area for a commercial purse seine fishing opportunity targeting VFDA pink salmon on Tuesday, July 20.

Aerial surveys of the Montague and Southwestern Districts were flown yesterday, July 18 and pink salmon escapements are within or near expected ranges for the date. **Wild pink salmon have begun to arrive in Montague District streams, to allow for entry of wild stocks the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will close after the current July 19, commercial fishing period.** The department does not anticipate that these stocks will sustain a consistent schedule of openings at this time. Additional fishing opportunities will be dependent on ongoing aerial survey assessments and continued run entry of wild stocks.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, **north of a latitude of 60° 54.00' N.,** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, July 20. **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. Preliminary harvest estimates for the periods occurring on Saturday, July 17 and Sunday, July 18 were approximately 1.23 million pink salmon with 147 deliveries reported, and approximately 2 million pink salmon with 213 deliveries reported, respectively.

Waters inside of the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement. Waters closed for this period include the following areas:

- (7) **Galena Bay:** waters east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.87' N. lat., 146°39.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.55' N. lat., 146°39.65' W. long.;
- (8) **Jack Bay:** waters south and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.34' N. lat., 146°35.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.17' N. lat., 146°39.77' W. long.;
- (3) **Sawmill Bay:** north of a line from a marker on shore at approximately 61°02.71' N. lat., 146°46.44' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.58' N. lat., 146°47.07' W. long.;

UNAKWIK DISTRICT: The Unakwik District is now closed to commercial fishing for the 2021 season.

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 seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 20.

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.