



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 20, 2021

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #39

SEINE FISHERIES: Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will be closed on Wednesday, July 21 to allow for further evaluation of fishery performance data. It is anticipated that there will be a broad area opener in portions of PWS on Thursday, July 22, with time and area specifics provided tomorrow, July 21.

Both industry and VFDA sampling of pink salmon in the Eastern District indicated that fish harvested from the Narrows and Port of Valdez on July 18 and 19 were between 49 – 53% female with an average weight of 3.5 lbs. Preliminary harvest estimates for the periods ending yesterday, July 19 are as follows:

- **Eastern District: 1,128,004 million pink salmon with 109 deliveries reported.**
- **Northern District: 570,942 pink salmon with 45 deliveries reported.**
- **Port Chalmers Subdistrict: 438,673 pink salmon with 30 deliveries reported.**

Aerial surveys of all PWS Districts are ongoing and weather dependent. The department does not anticipate that wild stocks will sustain a consistent schedule of openings at this time.

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 fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 21.

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.