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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: July 22, 2021

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #43

<u>SEINE FISHERIES:</u> Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will be closed on Friday, July 23 to allow for further evaluation of fishery performance data and allow VFDA to begin collecting and securing broodstock. It is anticipated that there will be a commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in portions of PWS on Saturday, July 24, with time and area specifics provided tomorrow, July 23. This announcement does not affect the previously announced purse seine period in the Coghill District.

An aerial survey of the Eastern and Northern Districts is scheduled to take place today, July 22, 2021. Depending on weather, aerial surveys of other PWS Districts are expected to occur this weekend or early next week. At this time, the department does not anticipate that wild stocks will sustain a consistent schedule of openings.

Pink salmon preliminary contribution estimates from recent fishing periods in PWS are as follows:

- Eastern District: 14-hour period ending on July 19 78% SGH, 1% AFK and 21% wild.
- Northern District: 14-hour period ending on July 19 40% SGH, 4% CCH, 2% AFK and 54% wild.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Friday, July 23. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, July 24.

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.