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Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: July 30, 2021 **CONTACT:** Heather Scannell Finfish Area Management Biologist (907) 424-3212

## Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #53

<u>SEINE FISHERIES</u>: Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will be closed tomorrow, July 31 and an announcement providing specifics for a broad area fishing opportunity occurring on Sunday, August 1 will be released tomorrow.

An aerial survey of the Southwestern and Montague Districts was flown yesterday, July 29, and a survey of the Coghill, Northwestern, and Eshamy Districts is occurring today. The Southeastern District will be surveyed this weekend. Sampling of commercial harvest from the fishing period on Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> is ongoing, and results of that data will be summarized in future announcements. At this time, based on the current data available on wild stocks it is anticipated that some districts can sustain commercial fishing on an every other day schedule, however, should enhanced stocks require additional fishing effort, there may be opportunities for daily fishing.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 26, and has collected approximately 11% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Cost recovery fishing continues today at WNH, AFK and CCH.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 31. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 4.

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.