



Cordova Area Office  
401 Railroad Ave.  
Cordova, AK 99574

PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526  
www.adfg.alaska.gov

**Advisory Announcement**  
*For Immediate Release: May 20, 2022*

**CONTACT: Jeremy Botz**  
**Finfish Area Management Biologist**  
**(907) 424-3212**

**Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #3**

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** The Copper River District will remain closed to commercial fishing. The Copper River District will open to subsistence fishing at 7:00 am on Monday, May 23 for a 12-hour fishing period. Waters within the Chinook salmon **expanded** inside closure area will be **CLOSED** during this subsistence fishing period. The next commercial opening of the Copper River District is anticipated to occur on Thursday, May 26 with time and area announced on Wednesday, May 25 by 2:00 pm.

The **expanded** Chinook salmon inside closure area will be defined as waters north of a line connecting the following points:

<i>Point</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
<b>Steamboat North</b>	<b>60° 22.87' N.</b>	<b>145° 33.50' W.</b>
Steamboat South	60° 22.31' N.	145° 33.50' W.
West side Pete Dahl Entrance	60° 18.89' N.	145° 30.99' W.
West end Grass Island	60° 18.30' N.	145° 28.42' W.
East end Grass Island	60° 15.24' N.	145° 17.89' W.
West end Kokenhenik Bar	60° 15.00' N.	145° 16.20' W.
East end Kokenhenik Bar	60° 13.65' N.	145° 09.46' W.
Western tip of Softuk Bar	60° 13.68' N.	145° 05.78' W.
<b>Chinook Alternate #1</b>	<b>60° 13.79' N.</b>	<b>144° 59.09' W.</b>
<b>Chinook Alternate #2</b>	<b>60° 13.64' N.</b>	<b>144° 53.78' W.</b>
<b>Chinook Alternate #3</b>	<b>60° 12.64' N.</b>	<b>144° 40.21' W.</b>

\*Please note that the 'Coffee Creek West' point was replaced with 'Chinook Alternate #1'.

The grass bank marker line is defined in 5AAC 24.350(1)(A) with the exception of this year's extension of the closure line across Little Softuk (**see bold font below**). This closure line is defined with the following points:

<i>Point</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
Point Whitshed South	60° 26.49' N.	145° 52.86' W.
Alaganik Slough North	60° 24.65' N.	145° 36.70' W.
Pete Dahl East	60° 20.44' N.	145° 29.14' W.
West Kokenhenik	60° 14.88' N.	145° 10.01' W.
East "East Side"	60° 14.83' N.	145° 03.36' W.
Coffee Creek East	60° 14.19' N.	144° 58.01' W.
Charlie Mohr North	60° 15.15' N.	144° 56.43' W.
Martin River North	60° 15.29' N.	144° 52.52' W.
Strawberry Reef	60° 13.93' N.	144° 50.66' W.
<b>Little Softuk</b>	<b>60° 13.16' N.</b>	<b>144° 41.38' W.</b>

Waters north of this line, within sloughs, and in Boswell Bay within the bay (5 AAC 24.350 (1)(A)) are closed to commercial and subsistence salmon fishing during all periods.

During the commercial fishing season, subsistence harvest may occur in the Copper River District concurrent in time and area with commercial fishing periods until the Copper River District is closed at the end of the season. Additionally, waters of the Copper River District, excluding the expanded Chinook salmon inside closure area, will open to subsistence fishing from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm on all Saturdays between May 16 and October 31. Prince William Sound Management Area salmon subsistence permits may be obtained through any ADF&G office or online (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/>). **In Cordova, permits will be available during normal business hours Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** ADF&G staff will not be available to issue permits before hours, after hours, on state holidays, or on weekends. **Permit holders are encouraged to call the Cordova office at 907-424-3212 or report online (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest/>) to provide preliminary harvest reports to assist with inseason harvest tracking.**

Cumulative sonar count through 5/19 is 98 fish whereas 6,354 fish are projected by this date. The 0600 count for 5/18 is 48 fish. Only the north bank sonar has been deployed so far this season. The north bank sonar was first deployed at 1300 on 5/17 and 24-hour data collection is anticipated from this point forward. Shore ice and ice flows are currently preventing south bank sonar deployment. Preliminary harvest estimate from the 12-hour period that occurred on Thursday, May 19 was 2,700 Chinook and 11,700 sockeye salmon with 414 deliveries reported. This compares to a projected harvest of 29,900 sockeye salmon for this period.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** The Bering River District will remain closed to commercial fishing.

**Copies of the updated regulation booklet, *2022-2024 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound*, are available in the Cordova ADFG office**

**ALL buyers purchasing fish in the PWS Management Area are required to complete a Processor Registration Form. Contact the Cordova office for any questions regarding registration.**

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, May 25.**

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.