Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #49

<u>SEINE FISHERIES</u>: An aerial survey of wild stocks yesterday, August 10, indicated that pink and chum salmon escapements have exceeded anticipated ranges for this date. It is likely that escapement will be met in all districts-final escapement estimates will be available post-season. PWSAC cost recovery fishing is ongoing and they have collected approximately 63% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Run entry into PWSAC facilities remains below what is anticipated for this date. Industry sampling of cost recovery harvest occurring at WNH on August 10 was 39% female. Cost recovery fishing at all PWSAC facilities is anticipated to occur today.

On Sunday, August 7, the cost recovery fleet conducted 3 sets at three sites in the Southwestern District to gauge run entry and stock composition. These sites (Squirrel Bay, Fox Farm, Middle Cape) were historically used during the test fishery that was conducted by the Department. Two samples were collected from those sets and the preliminary results from one of those samples were 33% wild, 24.5% AFK, 17%WNH, 17% CCH and 8.5% SGH; the other sample is still being processed.

Fishing opportunity for later timed stocks returning to the eastern side of PWS will occur on Sunday, August 14. Additional area for Sunday, is dependent on PWSAC run entry, and cost recovery/broodstock progress.

Copies of the updated regulation booklet, 2022-2024 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound, are <u>not</u> yet available in the Cordova ADFG office. In the interim, please reference: 2022-2024 Prince William Sound Area Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations (alaska.gov)

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 seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm on Saturday, August 13. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm on Saturday, August 13.

Permit holders are advised that unscheduled announcements based on current escapement data may occur at anytime inseason either establishing an additional period or extending an open period.

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 CopperRiver 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.