



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: October 4, 2023

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #62

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, October 5 for a 36-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. Additionally, the Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, October 9 for a 36-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The Copper River District commercial salmon fishing season will close effective 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 10.

The grass bank marker line is defined in 5 AAC 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.
Little Softuk	60° 13.16' N.	144° 41.38' W.

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.

For the week ending September 30, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 41,740 coho salmon versus an anticipated range 15,542 – 32,540. Overall observational conditions during this survey were good with some index reaches unsurveyable due to high water conditions. No harvest was reported for the fishing periods that started on September 28 and October 2. The cumulative Copper River District harvest to date is 120,000 coho salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, October 5 for a 36-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. Additionally, the Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, October 9 for a 36-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The Bering River District commercial salmon fishing season will close effective 7:00 pm on Tuesday, October 10.

For the week ending September 23, the actual Bering River District survey count was 20,600 coho salmon versus an anticipated range 4,199 – 10,659. Overall observational conditions during this survey were poor with some

index reaches unsurveyable due to high water conditions. No harvest was reported for the fishing periods that started on September 28 and October 2.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District commercial salmon fishing season will close effective immediately. Coho salmon brood stock abundance indices remain well below anticipated at WNH and PWSAC recommends keeping the fishery closed.

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 907-267-2843.