



Advisory Announcement
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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #36

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, July 24, for a 60-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period.

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.

During the commercial fishing season, subsistence harvest may occur in the Copper River District concurrent in time and area with commercial fishing periods, unless otherwise stated, until the Copper River District is closed at the end of the season. **Additionally, waters of the Copper River District will open to subsistence fishing from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm on all Saturdays from June 28 through October 25.** 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. To assist with inseason harvest tracking, 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.

Cumulative sonar count through 7/22 is 867,170 fish, whereas 578,622 fish would be expected by this date based on historical timing applied to the 2025 inriver goal. The 0600 count for 7/23 is 1,312 fish. For the week ending July 19, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 69,767 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range of 31,424 – 74,276. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 60-hour period that started on Thursday, July 17 were 21 Chinook and 76,800 sockeye salmon with 201 deliveries reported. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 5,460 Chinook and 764,000 sockeye salmon. The 5-year (2020–2024), 10-year (2015–2024), and 20-year (2005–

2024) average cumulative harvests through 7/16 are 643,000, 772,000, and 1.10 million sockeye salmon, respectively.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, July 24, for a 60-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. For the week ending July 19, the actual Bering River District survey count was 19,050 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 11,015 – 24,232.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: Wild sockeye, chum, and pink salmon run timing overlap is increasing and area is being reduced to provide for escapement in district streams and to allow for run entry to other districts. The Main Bay Subdistrict will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, July 24. The AGZ will open to **DRIFT GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 55 sockeye salmon through 7/22 with a cumulative target of 1,508–3,248 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that started on Thursday, July 17 were 9,110 sockeye, 6,640 pink, and 3,180 chum salmon with 76 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that started on Monday, July 21 were 4,030 sockeye, 3,490 pink, and 1,410 chum salmon with 50 deliveries reported.

UNAKWIK DISTRICT: The Unakwik District will open to commercial drift gillnet and purse seine harvest for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, July 24. **The commercial salmon fishery in the Unakwik District will close for the season after this fishing period.**

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: The Port Chalmers Subdistrict will open to drift gillnet fishing for an 84-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, July 24 with an additional 60-hour period beginning at 8:00 am on Monday, July 28. **The drift gillnet fishing season in the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will close at 8:00 pm on Wednesday, July 30.** The western boundary of the Port Chalmers Subdistrict is defined by lines from 60°20.00'N., 147°26.59'W. to 60°14.75'N., 147°35.35'W. to 60°02.50'N., 147°44.41'W. **Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will not be in effect through 8:00 pm on Wednesday, July 30.** Preliminary harvest estimates from the 84-hour period that started on Thursday, July 17 were 18,300 chum, 1,110 pink, and 12 sockeye salmon with 41 deliveries reported.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of College Fiord, north of a latitude line at 61°01.80'N., will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet harvest for a 14-hour period starting at 7:00 am on Thursday, July 24. **Until further notice, regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B), will not be in effect during open commercial fishing periods. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.**

The cumulative sockeye salmon weir count through July 22 was 60,433 fish compared to an escapement objective of 19,126–70,287 fish for this date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 84-hour period that started on Thursday, July 17 were 4,540 chum, 13,800 pink and sockeye salmon with 86 deliveries reported.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Thursday, July 24.
The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Friday, July 26.

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.

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.