



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 26, 2025

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #38

SEINE FISHERIES: VFDA completed cost recovery on July 14 and has started broodstock recruitment. Continued run entry into Valdez Arm, Narrows, and Port warrants additional fishing pressure on SGH pink salmon.

Pink salmon run entry into PWSAC facilities has improved, and PWSAC has recommended that THAs, SHAs, and hatchery subdistricts remain closed to start building fish for cost recovery. Cost recovery is expected to begin early next week.

Aerial surveys of most PWS Districts were flown this past week, and wild escapement indices remain within expected ranges for this date. Beginning next week, as fishing effort shifts from the SGH return to more wild stocks and PWSAC cost recovery begins, extra days between fishing periods may be warranted.

5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters. Unless otherwise specified, all regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures are in effect. Alaska Fish Resource Monitor ([Alaska Fish Resource Monitor \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com)) has an interactive map highlighting approximate locations of cataloged anadromous streams.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, south of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, July 27. The preliminary harvest estimate for Friday, July 25, was 1.04 million pink salmon with 150 reported deliveries.

Waters inside the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed to commercial fishing during this period to ensure early season escapement:

- (1) **Jack Bay:** south and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.34' N. lat., 146°35.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.17' N. lat., 146°39.77' W. long.;
- (2) **Sawmill Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.71' N. lat., 146°46.44' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.58' N. lat., 146°47.07' W. long.
- (3) **Galena Bay:** east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.87' N. lat., 146°39.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.55' N. lat., 146°39.65' W. long.;
- (4) **Landlocked Bay:** waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (5) **Irish Cove:** south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°46.73' N. lat., 146°26.62' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°46.27' N. lat., 146°27.12' W. long.;
- (6) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, excluding the Perry Island and CCH Subdistricts and the CCH THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until

8:00 pm, on Sunday, July 27. The preliminary harvest estimate for Friday, July 25, was 27,000 pink salmon, with 4 deliveries reported.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, excluding the Esther Subdistrict and WNH THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, July 27. 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 Monday, July 28. **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 25 was 76,828 fish compared to an escapement objective of 19,888–73,916 fish for this date. Preliminary harvest estimates for Friday, July 25, were 1,700 pink and 500 sockeye salmon, with 11 deliveries reported.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, July 27.

Waters inside of the following Northwestern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement. Waters closed for this period include the following areas

- (1) **Port Nellie Juan:** south and west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°30.36' N. lat., 148°15.03' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°32.36' N. lat., 148°19.42' W. long.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, July 27.

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, July 28, for a 48-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 7/25 is 879,917 fish, whereas 591,354 fish would be expected by this date based on historical timing applied to the 2025 inriver goal. The 0600 count for 7/26 is 964 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 48-hour period that started on Monday, July 21 were 10 Chinook and 33,000 sockeye salmon with 169 deliveries reported. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 5,483 Chinook and 806,000 sockeye salmon. The 5-year (2020–2024), 10-year (2015–2024), and 20-year (2005–2024) average cumulative harvests through 7/23 are 653,000, 786,000, and 1.12 million sockeye salmon, respectively.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, July 28, for a 48-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 Eshamy District **north of Loomis Creek (60° 29.44'N., 147° 58.42'W.),** will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, July 28. The AGZ will open to **SET GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 69 sockeye salmon through 7/24 with a cumulative target of 1,763–3,798 fish for the date. No harvest was reported for the 36-hour period that started on Thursday, July 24.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: The Port Chalmers Subdistrict will open to drift gillnet fishing for a 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.** No harvest was reported for the 60-hour fishing period that started on Monday, July 21.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Monday, July 28.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 30.

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.