Division of Commercial Fisheries Forrest Bowers, Acting Director

Cordova Area Office 401 Railroad Ave. Cordova, AK 99574



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

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

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 31, 2025

CONTACT:

Jeremy Botz and Heather Scannell Finfish Area Management Biologists (907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #41

<u>SEINE FISHERIES:</u> PWSAC cost recovery began on July 27 – cost recovery fishing will depend on build-up and strength of run entry into SHAs. To facilitate cost recovery efforts and provide opportunities for wild stocks, time and area for future fishing opportunities will be based upon wild stock escapement, harvest contribution estimates, and harvest/effort data.

The VFDA return is over 90% complete, and recent staff surveys indicate that the required amount of broodstock is in the port. Egg-take is expected to begin in the coming days. Based on that, VFDA has recommended a fishing period targeting surplus pink salmon. The next broad area fishing period will occur on Sunday, August 3, with time and area announced on Saturday, August 2.

Aerial surveys of all PWS Districts were conducted last week. The Southeastern District was flown yesterday, and the Montague and Southwestern Districts were flown on July 29. Wild stock escapement indices remain within expected ranges for this date.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, north of a line from 60°57.11' N. lat., 146°54.52' W. long. to 60°56.40' N. lat., 146°51.75' W. long. to 60°57.00' N. lat., 146°45.35' W. long will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Friday, August 1. Waters of Port Valdez east of a longitude of 146° 30.00' W. will be CLOSED to commercial fishing during this period. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures north of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point will not be in effect during this fishing period.

Preliminary harvest estimate for the period on Wednesday, July 30, was 1.20 million pink salmon with 149 deliveries reported.

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) <u>Jack Bay</u>: 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) <u>Sawmill Bay</u>: 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) <u>Galena Bay</u>: 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,;

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

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.

