## **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

#### **CONTACT:**

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

# Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 8, 2025

# Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #46

**SEINE FISHERIES:** PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on July 27 and harvested approximately 20% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Industry sampling of pink salmon harvest from WNH and AFK on August 7 yielded 34% and 25% female ratios, respectively.

VFDA began its egg take on August 4 and, as of August 6, had completed 9% of its egg take goal.

Aerial surveys of all purse seine districts are ongoing, and stream escapements remain within anticipated ranges for this time frame.

Harvest estimates for the fishing periods that occurred on August 6 are as follows:

- Eastern District: 816,000 pink and 13,300 chum salmon with 92 reported deliveries.
- Northern District: 365,000 pink salmon with 62 reported deliveries.
- Coghill District: 12,000 pink salmon with 14 reported deliveries.
- Montague District: 168,000 pink salmon with 12 reported deliveries.
- Southeastern District: 72,700 pink and 8,900 chum salmon with 14 reported deliveries.

Recent preliminary contribution estimates are as follows:

- Northern District on August 6: 64% CCH, 13% SGH, 19% wild, 3% WNH, and 1% AFK.
- Eastern District on August 6: 56% SGH, 36% wild, and 8% CCH.

**5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters.** Unless otherwise specified, all regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures are in effect. Alaska Fish Resource Monitor (<u>Alaska Fish Resource Monitor (arcgis.com</u>)) 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, August 10.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, August 10.

**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, August 10.

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, August 11, and at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 14 for 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing periods. The Copper River District

will switch to coho salmon management starting Monday, August 18. The standard management strategy for coho salmon is one or two 24-hour periods per week depending on escapement and harvest levels.

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:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
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.

For the week ending August 9, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 39,180 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range of 24,976 – 59,034. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 60-hour period that started on Monday, August 4, were 0 Chinook and 1,128 sockeye salmon with 12 deliveries reported. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 5,492 Chinook and 838,670 sockeye salmon. The 5-year (2020–2024), 10-year (2015–2024), and 20-year (2005-2024) average cumulative harvests through 7/26 are 664,000, 807,000, and 1.15 million sockeye salmon, respectively.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, August 11 and at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 14 for 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing periods. The standard management strategy for coho salmon in the Bering River District is to fish concurrently with the Copper River District. For the week ending August 9, the actual Bering River District survey count was 8,670 sockeye salmon versus an anticipated range 4,301 - 9,462.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: 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, August 11. The AGZ will open to SET GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period. The Main Bay Subdistrict will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, August 14. The AGZ will open to DRIFT GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 2,449 sockeye salmon through 8/7 with a cumulative target of 4,156–8,951 fish for the date. No harvest was reported for the 36-hour period that started on Monday, August 4.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Monday, August 11. The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, August 16.

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.