



Advisory Announcement
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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #58

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 1 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. 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 23, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 9,575 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 9,298 – 19,468. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday August 25, were 27,442 coho and 76 sockeye salmon with 238 deliveries reported. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 47,700 coho, 5,493 Chinook, and 839,000 sockeye salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 1 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The standard management strategy for coho salmon in the Bering River District is to fish concurrent fishing time with the Copper River District. For the week ending August 23, the actual Bering River District survey count was 2,410 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 4,002 – 10,158. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday August 25, were 4,490 coho salmon with 28 deliveries reported.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: The Main Bay Subdistrict will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, August 28. The AGZ will open to **DRIFT GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period. No harvest has been reported in the Eshamy District since the 24-hour period that started Monday, August 11, and the district will close for the season at 8:00 am on Friday, August 29.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 6,321 sockeye salmon through August 26 with a cumulative target of 11,003–23,699 fish for the date.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Harvestable surplus in the Coghill District is anticipated to no longer be predominately pink salmon and, per 5 AAC 24.370 (e)(5)(B), drift gillnet is anticipated to be the only legal commercial salmon fishing gear type starting Monday, September 1. The Coghill District, excluding the Esther Subdistrict and the WNH SHA and THA, will open to commercial **drift gillnet** harvest for a 24-hour fishing period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 1.

SEINE FISHERIES: Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will remain closed. The next anticipated broad area opener may occur as soon as Saturday, August 30. PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on July 27 and harvested approximately 91% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through August 22. Cost recovery fishing has been suspended at all facilities to begin broodstock recruitment; cost recovery may continue once brood is secured.

VFDA began its egg take on August 4 and, as of August 22, is 90% complete towards the goal. Egg take continues today, and it is anticipated that VFDA will reach its egg take goal on Friday, August 29.

Preliminary harvest from the fishing periods occurring on August 26 are as follows:

- Eastern District: 73,300 pink salmon with 10 deliveries reported
- Northern District: 290,000 pink salmon with 20 deliveries reported
- Coghill District: No deliveries reported.
- Southwestern District: 680,000 pink salmon with 67 deliveries reported
- Montague District: 26,200 pink salmon with 3 deliveries reported
- Southeastern District: No deliveries reported.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Friday, August 29.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated at 2:00 pm Wednesday, September 3.

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.