



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #62

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 8 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 September 6, the actual Copper River Delta survey count was 16,030 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 21,447 – 44,904. High water and associated turbidity resulted in poor survey conditions in some index reaches. The Eyak Lake drainage, which historically represents approximately 22% of Copper River Delta coho salmon escapement indices, was largely unsurveyable. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour

period that started on Monday, September 1 were 31,400 coho salmon with 211 deliveries reported. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 81,100 coho, 5,493 Chinook, and 840,000 sockeye salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 8 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 September 6, the actual Bering River District survey count was 3,590 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 8,803 – 22,345. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, September 1 were 8,790 coho salmon with 63 deliveries reported.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District, excluding the WNH SHA and THA, will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 36-hour fishing period starting at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 4. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, September 1 were 1,300 coho salmon with 25 deliveries reported.

SEINE FISHERIES: Fishermen should confirm their market before fishing. PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on July 27 and harvested approximately 95% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through September 2. Egg take operations at all PWSAC pink salmon facilities are ongoing. As of September 2, they are 26% complete at CCH, 44% complete at WNH, and 40% complete at AFK.

VFDA has recommended a commercial fishing period targeting surplus SGH-coho salmon. Additional fishing opportunities targeting SGH-coho salmon will depend on continued run entry and broodstock recruitment. There may be unscheduled announcements regarding area adjustments in the Eastern District to provide fishing opportunity in Port Valdez.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, September 4. Waters of Port Valdez east of the 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.

Waters of the Eastern District, south of a line from Entrance Point to Potato Point, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Friday, September 5, through Wednesday, September 10.

Preliminary harvest for yesterday's fishing period was 26,900 pink and 14,400 coho salmon from 17 reported deliveries.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Thursday, September 4, through Wednesday, September 10.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Thursday, September 4, through Wednesday, September 10.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southwestern District, excluding the San Juan Subdistrict and AFK THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Thursday, September 4, through Wednesday, September 10.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Thursday, September 4, through Wednesday, September 10.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Thursday, September 4, through Wednesday, September 10.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated at 2:00 pm Wednesday, September 10.

The next scheduled gillnet fisheries announcement is anticipated at 2:00 pm Saturday, September 6.

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.