



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #30

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will switch to coho salmon management next week with a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period starting at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 13. 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:

<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.

For the week ending August 1, the Copper River Delta survey count was 37,569 sockeye salmon which falls within the anticipated range of 32,568–76,979. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 4,250 Chinook and 243,000 sockeye salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 13 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 1, the Bering River District survey count was 5,520 sockeye salmon, which is below the anticipated range of 8,409–18,499.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: The Eshamy District north of Loomis Creek (60° 29.44'N., 147° 58.42'W.), will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 12-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, August 10. The Eshamy District north of Loomis Creek (60° 29.44'N., 147° 58.42'W.), will open to commercial set gillnet harvest for a 12-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, August 10. The AGZ will open to **DRIFT GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period. Regulatory closed waters in the MBH SHA and AGZ, will not be in effect for this

fishing period. The Eshamy River weir has passed 1,850 sockeye salmon through 8/6 with a cumulative target of 3,919–8,441 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Thursday, August 6 are not yet available.

SEINE FISHERIES: Prince William Sound purse seine fisheries will remain closed. Aerial surveys are occurring today and throughout the weekend. **Depending on aerial survey results**, the next commercial fishing opportunity targeting wild stocks **may** occur as early as Monday, August 10, with time and area announced Sunday, August 9.

Due to heavy fog only a partial aerial survey of the Eastern district was flown, Wednesday, August 5. However, the limited survey was encouraging as wild stock escapement is showing improvement.

The Egg take at VFDA began Monday, August 3. As of August 7, VFDA has achieved 6% of its 270 million pink salmon egg take goal. VFDA estimates that it has secured its brood stock needs at the hatchery. To date, VFDA has achieved 16% of its 2026 pink salmon revenue goal. Future cost recovery harvests will be conducted if a surplus becomes available.

PWSAC began its cost recovery sales program on Friday, July 31, and to date has collected approximately 39% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Sampling of cost recovery pink salmon at AFK on August 6, resulted in an average weight of 3.5 pounds per fish and 25% female ratio. Sampling of cost recovery pink salmon at WNH on August 6, resulted in an average weight of 3.2 pounds per fish and a 27% female ratio. Sampling of cost recovery pink salmon at CCH on August 6, resulted in an average weight of 2.9 pounds per fish and 20% female ratio.

Copies of the regulation booklet, *2025-2028 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound*, are available in the Cordova and Anchorage ADFG office. [2025-2028 Prince William Sound Area Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations](#)

ALL buyers purchasing fish in the PWS Management Area are required to complete a Processor Registration Form. Contact the Cordova office for any questions regarding registration.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be released by 2:00 pm on Monday, August 10.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be released by 2:00 pm on Wednesday, August 12.

Announcement recordings are available for gillnet fisheries at 907-424-7535 and seine fisheries at 907-424-7345.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web address: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareapws.main> (Prince William Sound and Copper River homepage).

Unless otherwise specified, all openings are clock openings based on Alaska Daylight Time, which is based on Coordinated Universal Time and may be obtained by calling 303-499-7111.

The department encourages commercial permit holders to renew their licenses early and to check their CFEC vessel registration stickers to make sure they are current.

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.