



Advisory Announcement
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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #21

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in eastern PWS on Saturday, July 11. VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 6 and has collected approximately 57% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 9. VFDA reports that cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Thursday, July 9 resulted in an average weight of 3.87 pounds per fish and 26% female.

An aerial survey was conducted in the Eastern and Northern districts on Thursday, July 9, and indicated that chum and pink salmon escapements are currently below the expected ranges for the date within those districts. Current indices of escapement and run entry do not support a purse seine CPF targeting wild stocks in the Eastern or Northern districts. The next aerial survey of Eastern and Northern districts is scheduled for Thursday, July 16.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, north of a latitude of 60° 57.00' N., will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, July 11. All waters of Galena Bay south of 60° 57.00' N., will be closed to commercial fishing during this period.

Waters of Port Valdez east of a line from 61° 05.00' N, 146° 21.50' W to 61° 06.00' N, 146° 21.50' W and south of a line from 61° 06.00' N, 146° 21.50' W to 61° 06.00' N, 146° 15.10' W will be CLOSED to commercial salmon fishing during this period.

Waters within 200 yards of the AMHS Valdez Ferry Terminal are closed to commercial fishing when the ferry is arriving and departing. All waters of the Valdez small boat harbors and within 50 yards of the entrance to the harbors are closed to commercial fishing. Waters within the Alyeska Marine Terminal (Trans-Alaska Pipeline System) Security Zone are closed to commercial fishing. **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 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) **Galena Bay:** 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.;
- (2) **Jack Bay:** 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.;
- (3) **Sawmill Bay:** 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.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: The Port Chalmers Subdistrict, **north of 60°12.56' N. lat. and east a line from 60° 12.56'N., 147° 20.25'W. to 60° 20.00'N., 147° 14.30'W.,** will open to purse seine fishing for **36-hours** beginning at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 11. A regular schedule of three fishing periods per week (Monday, Thursday, Saturday) is anticipated to remain in effect until further notice. **Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will not be in effect until further notice.** Preliminary harvest estimates from the 48-hour period that started on Monday, July 6 were 15,700 chum salmon with 38 deliveries reported.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: The AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will open to purse seine fishing for **24-hours** beginning at 8:00 am on Saturday, July 11. A regular schedule of three fishing periods per week (Monday, Thursday, Saturday) is anticipated to remain in effect until further notice. **Anadromous stream closures within the AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will not be in effect until further notice.** Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Monday, July 6 were 6,200 chum and 700 sockeye salmon with 19 deliveries reported.

In response to COVID-19, all PWSAC facilities are closed to the public until further notice.

Copies of the updated regulation booklet, *2019-2021 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound*, are available in the Cordova ADFG office

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 11, 12, and 17 commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Saturday, July 11.

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 267-2843.**

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.