



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 13, 2020

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #24

SEINE FISHERIES: A fishing opportunity targeting VFDA pink salmon is expected for Wednesday, July 15, in portions of eastern Prince William Sound, with potential time and area to be announced at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, July 14. VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Monday, July 6 and has collected approximately 77% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal through July 13. Cost recovery pink salmon harvest in Port Valdez on Monday, July 12 resulted in an average weight of 3.8 pounds per fish and 38% female. VFDA cost recovery is continuing today.

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 the districts. Aerial surveys of most districts are expected to be conducted this week, weather depending, to further assess the strength of wild stock returns throughout PWS.

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 seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Tuesday, July 14.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 15.

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.