



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #35

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a SGH pink salmon opportunity in Port Valdez on Saturday, July 25. VFDA reports they have secured sufficient broodstock at SGH and has recommended additional fishing opportunity in Port Valdez. Time and area for future commercial fishing periods targeting VFDA pink salmon in Port Valdez will be based on continued run entry and consideration of broodstock.

An estimated 950,000 pink salmon were harvested in PWS on Thursday, July 23. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through July 23 is estimated at 6.9 million CPF and 1 million VFDA cost recovery fish, for a total of 7.9 million fish. The 5-year even-year average (2010–2018) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through July 23 is 13.5 million fish.

An aerial survey was conducted in the Southwestern and Montague districts on Thursday, July 23, and indicated that pink salmon escapements are currently below the expected ranges for the date within the districts. It is anticipated that future fishing opportunity directed on wild stocks will initially be limited to one to two days per week. **Time and area for future commercial fishing periods targeting wild stock pink and chum salmon will be dependent upon escapement, harvest, and effort.**

Preliminary contribution estimates from the 60-hour fishing period on Monday, July 20 in the Coghill District were 68% wild, 25% SGH, and 7% WNH.

Preliminary contribution estimates from the 24-hour fishing period on Monday, July 20 in the Eshamy District were 75% wild, 23% SGH, and 2% WNH.

Preliminary contribution estimates from the 48-hour fishing period on Monday, July 20 in the Montague District were 87% wild and 13% AFK.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters in the Eastern District, north of a line from 61° 02.855' N., 146° 44.204' W. to 61° 02.373' N., 146° 43.407' W. to 61° 02.992' N., 146° 39.165' W., will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, July 25.

Waters of Port Valdez east of a 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.

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 25.

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.