



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #48

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will remain closed to commercial fishing on Thursday, August 13. The Copper River District will open to subsistence fishing at 7:00 am on August 13, for a 12-hour fishing period. The Copper River District will open to commercial salmon fishing for a 24-hour period from **7:00 a.m. Monday, August 17 to 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 18**. Copper River District is transitioning to coho salmon management starting Monday, August 17. The standard management strategy for coho salmon is one or two 24-hour periods per week depending on escapement and harvest levels. An aerial survey of the Copper River Delta is being flown today, August 12.

The grass bank marker line is defined in 5AAC 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.

During the commercial fishing season, subsistence harvest may occur in the Copper River District concurrent in time and area with commercial fishing periods until the Copper River District is closed at the end of the season. **Additionally, waters of the Copper River District, will be OPEN to subsistence fishing from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm on Saturday, August 15.** Subsistence users may obtain subsistence permits during regular business hours. The Cordova ADF&G office is open to the public Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. **Subsistence permits are not available outside of regular office hours.** 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 to assist with inseason harvest tracking.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will remain closed to commercial salmon fishing on Thursday, August 13. The Bering River District will open to commercial salmon fishing for a 24-hour period from **7:00 a.m. Monday, August 17 to 7:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 18**. Bering River District is transitioning to coho salmon management starting Monday, August 17. The standard management strategy for coho salmon is one or two 24-hour periods per week depending on escapement and harvest levels. An aerial survey of the Bering River District is being flown today, August 12.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: The Eshamy District will remain closed to commercial fishing on Thursday, August 13. Waters of Eshamy Bay, west of a line from 60° 28.51'N., 147° 59.10'W. to 60° 27.94'N., 147° 57.87'W., and waters of the Main Bay Subdistrict will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 a.m. on **Monday, August 17**. The AGZ will open to DRIFT GILLNET permit holders only during this fishing period.

PWSAC has completed cost recovery and brood collection at MBH and recommends opening the Main Bay Subdistrict to the CPF. **In response to COVID-19, all PWSAC facilities are closed to the public until further notice.**

SEINE FISHERIES: **This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Thursday, August 13.** An estimated 2.3 million pink salmon were harvested in PWS on Tuesday, August 11. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through August 11 is estimated at 14.8 million CPF and 2.8 million cost recovery fish, for a total of 17.6 million fish. The 5-year even-year average (2010–2018) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through August 11 is 28.7 million fish.

PWSAC recommends the Cannery Creek Subdistrict, AFK SHA and THA, and CCH SHA and THA, will remain closed to protect broodstock. Future CPF openings targeting PWSAC enhanced pink salmon in hatchery subdistricts will be based on fisheries performance data and broodstock collection.

VFDA reports adequate broodstock escapement at SGH and has recommended a continued closure of Port Valdez at this time. Egg takes are currently underway at SGH and VFDA has completed approximately 37% of their pink salmon egg-take goal through August 11.

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, August 13. **Waters of Port Valdez north of a line from Entrance Point to Potato Point will be closed to commercial fishing during this period.**

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, **excluding waters of the Cannery Creek Subdistrict, and CCH SHA and THA**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour fishing period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding waters of the WNH SHA inside a line of buoys in front of the barrier seine**, will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters south of the latitude of 60° 11.50' N., and waters of eastern Knight Island east of Point Helen (147° 46.27' W.), will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period

from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm on Thursday, August 13. **Waters of the AFK THA and SHA will remain closed during this fishing period.** Anadromous stream closures within the Port Elrington Subdistrict will not be in effect during this fishing period.

MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

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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 Friday, August 14.

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.