



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 14, 2020

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #49

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Saturday, August 15. An estimated 1.5 million pink salmon were harvested in PWS on Thursday, August 13. The cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest through August 13 is estimated at 16.4 million CPF and 2.8 million cost recovery fish, for a total of 19.2 million fish. The 5-year even-year average (2010–2018) cumulative PWS pink salmon harvest (cost recovery and CPF fish) through August 13 is 30.4 million fish.

PWSAC recommends the Cannery Creek Subdistrict, San Juan Subdistrict, WNH SHA, 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.

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 Saturday, August 15. **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 Saturday, August 15.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, **excluding waters of the WNH SHA,** will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, August 15.

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 Saturday, August 15.

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 Saturday, August 15. **Waters of the San Juan Subdistrict, and 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 Saturday, August 15.

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 Saturday, August 15.

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 Sunday, August 16.

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.