



Advisory Announcement
For Immediate Release: July 23, 2021

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #44

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in portions of PWS on Saturday, July 24.

Preliminary harvest estimates from July 22 fishing periods in PWS are as follows:

- Eastern District: 336,392 pink salmon with 52 deliveries reported.
- Northern District: 260,953 with 29 deliveries reported.
- Coghill District: 8,246 with 38 deliveries reported.
- Southwestern District: 828,286 with 60 deliveries reported.

An aerial survey of the Eastern and Northern Districts was flown yesterday and wild stock run and escapement indices are near anticipated levels for this date. An aerial survey of the Coghill, Northwestern, and Eshamy Districts is being flown today. The department does not anticipate that wild stocks will sustain a consistent schedule of openings at this time.

5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters. Unless otherwise specified all regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures are in effect.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, **south of a line from Potato Point to Entrance Point** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, July 24. **During this period the waters of Beartrap Bay, west of the longitude of 146° 00.280' will open for an 8-hr period from 12:00 pm until 8:00 pm, prior to this 8-hr period the Beartrap Bay SHTF marker will be in effect. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures in Simpson Bay will not be in effect for this period.**

Waters inside of the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement:

- (1) **Beartrap Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°45.13' N. lat., 146°06.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°44.51' N. lat., 146°04.57' W. long.;
- (2) **Landlocked Bay:** waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (3) **Galena Bay:** waters 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.;
- (4) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, July 24.

Waters inside of the following Northern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement:

- (1) **Granite Bay:** north and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°55.02' N. lat., 147°27.61' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°54.66' N. lat., 147°26.72' W. long.;
- (2) **Cedar Bay:** north and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.46' N. lat., 147°27.03' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.03' N. lat., 147°26.39' W. long.;
- (3) **Jonah Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°01.17' N. lat., 147°35.07' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°00.40' N. lat., 147°35.93' W. long.;
- (4) **Siwash Bay:** west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°58.26' N. lat., 147°37.32' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°56.96' N. lat., 147°36.02' W. long.;
- (5) **Eaglek Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°50.66' N. lat., 147°40.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°50.56' N. lat., 147°44.57' W. long.;

COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District, excluding waters of the Esther Subdistrict and waters of the WNH SHA and THA, will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet harvest for a 14-hour period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, July 24. **Waters of Port Wells and College Fiord, north of 60° 55.81' N., and east of a line from Pakenham Point (61° 00.45' N., 148° 04.85' W.) to 60° 55.81' N., 148° 10.92' W., will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet harvest for two 14-hr periods starting at 6:00 am on Saturday, July 24 and Sunday, July 25.** Regulatory closed waters pertaining to the Coghill River, as specified in 5 AAC 24.350(6)(B)), will not be in effect for this fishing period. Commercial fishing will not be permitted within the bed or channel of the Coghill River at any stage of the tide.

Waters inside of the following Northern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement:

- (1) **Bettles Bay:** west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.16' N. lat., 148°14.76' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°54.97' N. lat., 148°16.09' W. long.;
- (2) **Hummer Bay:** west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°53.56' N. lat., 148°16.62' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°51.56' N. lat., 148°17.52' W. long.;
- (3) **Pigot Bay:** west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°49.96' N. lat., 148°19.07' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°00.40' N. lat., 148°20.12' W. long.;

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 14-hour fishing period, from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Saturday, July 24.

Waters inside of the following Northwestern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to ensure early season escapement. Waters closed for this period include the following areas:

- (1) **Cochrane Bay:** south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°44.91' N. lat., 148°17.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°46.01' N. lat., 148°21.77' W. long.;
- (2) **Culross Pass:** within the passage south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°45.47' N. lat., 148°12.63' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°45.82' N. lat., 148°13.57' W. long. and north of

a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°37.48' N. lat., 148°10.12' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°37.16' N. lat., 148°11.42' W. long.;

- (3) **Port Nellie Juan:** south and west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°30.36' N. lat., 148°15.03' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°32.36' N. lat., 148°19.42' W. long.

PWSAC requests that the Esther Subdistrict, WNH SHA and THA remain closed. PWSAC completed its preseason WNH chum salmon cost recovery goal and is also in the process of securing broodstock. **In response to COVID-19, all PWSAC facilities are closed to the public until further notice.**

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Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, 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 COVID19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>.

The next scheduled fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, July 24.

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.