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## Advisory Announcement

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #9

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** As previously announced, the Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Saturday, June 8 for a 12-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. Waters within the Chinook salmon **expanded** inside closure area will be **CLOSED** during this fishing period. **Permit holders are advised that unscheduled announcements providing additional fishing opportunity based on salmon abundance indices may occur at any time inseason.**

The **expanded** Chinook salmon inside closure area will be defined as waters north of a line connecting the following points:

<i>Point</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
Steamboat North	60° 22.87' N.	145° 33.50' W.
Steamboat South	60° 22.31' N.	145° 33.50' W.
West side Pete Dahl Entrance	60° 18.89' N.	145° 30.99' W.
West end Grass Island	60° 18.30' N.	145° 28.42' W.
East end Grass Island	60° 15.24' N.	145° 17.89' W.
West end Kokenhenik Bar	60° 15.00' N.	145° 16.20' W.
East end Kokenhenik Bar	60° 13.65' N.	145° 09.46' W.
Western tip of Softuk Bar	60° 13.68' N.	145° 05.78' W.
Chinook Alternate #1	60° 13.79' N.	144° 59.09' W.
Chinook Alternate #2	60° 13.64' N.	144° 53.78' W.
Chinook Alternate #3	60° 12.64' N.	144° 40.21' W.

\*Please note that the 'Coffee Creek West' point was replaced with 'Chinook Alternate #1'.

The grass bank marker line is defined in 5 AAC 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.
<b>Little Softuk</b>	<b>60° 13.16' N.</b>	<b>144° 41.38' W.</b>

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, subsistence fishing in the Copper River District is not allowed within 24 hours of the start of a commercial fishing period, therefore the subsistence fishing period on Saturday June 8 will start at 7:00 am concurrent with the start of the commercial fishing period.** Prince William Sound Management Area salmon subsistence permits may be obtained through any ADF&G office or online (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/>). In Cordova, permits will be available during normal business hours Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. To assist with inseason harvest tracking, 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.

Cumulative sonar count through 6/6 is 109,578 fish whereas 248,283 fish are expected by this date based on historical timing applied to the 2024 inriver goal. The 0600 count for 6/7 is 4,552 fish.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** As previously announced, the Bering River District will open to commercial salmon fishing, west of a longitude line at **144° 33.60' W.**, for a 12-hour period starting at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 8. **Bering River sockeye salmon run timing overlap has increased and open area within the district will remain reduced until escapement indices support additional fishing area.**

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** The Coghill District, excluding the Esther Subdistrict and the WNH THA and SHA, will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 36-hour fishing period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, June 10. 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 drift gillnet harvest for a 60-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, June 10. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 84-hour period that started on Thursday, May 30 were 3,000 chum salmon with 8 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 60-hour period that started on Monday, June 3 were 25,100 chum and 160 sockeye salmon with 171 deliveries reported.

PWSAC requests that the Esther Subdistrict and the WNH SHA and THA remain closed. Cost recovery harvests will commence at WNH as run entry and hatchery escapement warrants.

**ESHAMY DISTRICT:** The Eshamy District, excluding the MBH AGZ, will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, June 10. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that started on Thursday, May 30 were 400 sockeye and 120 chum salmon with 15 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 36-hour period that started on Monday, June 3 were 2,100 sockeye and 970 chum salmon with 41 deliveries reported.

PWSAC recommends that the MBH AGZ remain closed to allow for hatchery operations. Cost recovery harvests will commence at MBH as run entry and hatchery escapement warrants.

**MONTAGUE DISTRICT:** The Port Chalmers Subdistrict, north of 60°12.56' N. lat. and east a line from 60° 12.56'N., 147° 20.25'W. to 60° 20.00'N., 147° 14.30'W., will open to purse seine fishing for 48 hours starting at 8:00 am on Monday, June 10, for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, June 13, and for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Saturday, June 15. The estimated harvest for the 48-hour period ending on June 6 was 17,000 chum salmon with 14 reported deliveries. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will not be in effect until further notice. A total of 920,000 chum salmon are

forecast to return to Port Chalmers Subdistrict. Historical harvest timing for these chum salmon is from June 1 – July 27.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** The AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will open to purse seine fishing for 48 hours starting at 8:00 am on Monday, June 10, for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, June 13, and for a 36-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Saturday, June 15. Anadromous stream closures within the AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will not be in effect until further notice. A total of 240,000 chum salmon are forecast to return to AFK Hatchery. Historical harvest timing for these chum salmon is from June 1 – July 27.

**The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, June 12.**

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 907-267-2843.

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).

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.