



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 15, 2024

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #22

SEINE FISHERIES: VFDA began its cost recovery sales program on Friday, July 5, and has collected approximately 72% of the assigned pink salmon revenue goal. Pink salmon cost recovery harvest from yesterday, July 14, resulted in an average weight of 3.5 pounds per fish and 30% female. VFDA cost recovery is continuing today. Future fishing opportunities targeting VFDA pink salmon will be dependent on the completion of cost recovery and broodstock recruitment.

An aerial survey of the Eastern and Northern Districts was conducted today, and wild stock escapement trends continue to improve. However, they remain below what is expected for this date in Galena, Jack, and Sawmill Bays. Therefore, most of Valdez Arm will be closed for this fishing period. Surveys of the remaining districts will occur later in the week, depending on weather conditions.

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., and waters south of the latitude of 60° 57.00' N., will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm on Tuesday, July 16. **The waters of Port Valdez east of a longitude of 146° 28.00' W. and waters of Galena Bay south of 60° 57.00' N., 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.

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

- (1) Landlocked Bay: waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (2) Irish Cove: south of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°46.73' N. lat., 146°26.62' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°46.27' N. lat., 146°27.12' W. long.;
- (3) Port Fidalgo Subdistrict: waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.
- (4) St. Matthews Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°43.36' N. lat., 146°19.07' W. long. to a shore maker at approximately 60°43.61' N. lat., 146°21.17' W. long.;
- (5) Olsen Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°43.46' N. lat., 146°10.14' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°43.21' N. lat., 146°13.97' W. long.;
- (6) 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.; this includes all waters of Port Gravina and Beartrap Bay inside of this line;
- (7) Sheep Bay: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°41.13' N. lat., 145°58.87' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°40.46' N. lat., 145°58.01' W. long.;

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm Wednesday, July 17.

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.