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Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery-2025 Allocation Plan (5 AAC 24.370)

The *Prince William Sound Management and Salmon Enhancement Allocation Plan* (5AAC 24.370) specifies methods, percentage triggers, and corrective measures for allocating Prince William Sound Aquaculture Association (PWSAC)-produced salmon harvested in the commercial common property fishery. The set gillnet gear group allocation is 4% of the five-year average value of PWSAC-produced salmon harvested in the commercial common property fishery. If the set gillnet gear group exceeds 5% of the five-year average value of PWSAC-produced salmon, they will be limited to no more than 36 hours of fishing time per week beginning July 10 in the year following this calculation. After set gillnet harvest values have been excluded, the drift gillnet and purse seine gear groups are each allocated 50% of the remaining value of PWSAC-produced salmon harvested in the commercial common property fishery. If the drift gillnet gear group harvest value is 45% or less, then in the year following the current calculations, the drift gillnet gear group shall have exclusive access to the Port Chalmers Subdistrict to harvest enhanced salmon returns from June 1 through July 30. If the purse seine gear group harvest value is 45% or less, then in the year following the current calculations, the purse seine gear group shall have exclusive access to the Esther Subdistrict to harvest enhanced salmon returns from June 1 through July 20 during fishing periods established by emergency order.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) calculated exvessel value percentages for each gear group using the Commercial Operators Annual Report (COAR) area-specific prices and weights and ADF&G harvest estimates of PWSAC-produced fish by species and gear type (Table 1). The trigger points for corrections in allocation are 45% for purse seine and drift gillnet gear groups and 5% for the set gillnet gear group. The five-year (2019–2023) average value percentages for each gear type are 4.4% set gillnet, 43.9% drift gillnet, and 56.1% purse seine (Table 2). As a result, the drift gillnet gear group will have exclusive access to the Port Chalmers Subdistrict from June 1 through July 30 in 2025.

Table 1.—The 2023 COAR price per pound by gear type, species, and area.

| | Drif | t Gillnet | Purse Seine | Set Gillnet | |
|---------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| Species | Copper/Bering | Prince William Sound | Prince William Sound | Prince William Sound | |
| Chinook | \$12.17 | \$2.08 | \$0.75 | \$2.08 | |
| Chum | \$0.27 | \$0.52 | \$0.50 | \$0.49 | |
| Coho | \$1.29 | \$1.03 | \$0.08 | \$1.03 | |
| Pink | \$0.23 | \$0.24 | \$0.22 | \$0.23 | |
| Sockeye | \$2.19 | \$1.06 | \$1.01 | \$0.98 | |

Table 2.—Values and percentages by gear type for Area E (*please note-* drift gillnet and purse seine percentages are calculated using values that exclude set gillnet).

| Year | Drift Gillnet | | Purse Seine | | Set Gillnet | |
|--------------|---------------|-------|--------------|-------|-------------|------|
| 2019 | \$17,589,144 | 44.3% | \$22,101,479 | 55.7% | \$2,217,133 | 5.3% |
| 2020 | \$6,078,011 | 39.6% | \$9,265,912 | 60.4% | \$896,931 | 5.5% |
| 2021 | \$13,292,185 | 32.5% | \$27,566,130 | 67.5% | \$893,088 | 2.1% |
| 2022 | \$14,208,932 | 62.2% | \$8,631,964 | 37.8% | \$1,747,074 | 7.1% |
| 2023 | \$11,832,911 | 48.0% | \$12,842,706 | 52.0% | \$915,032 | 3.6% |
| Grand Total | \$63,001,183 | | \$80,408,192 | | \$6,669,258 | |
| 5-yr Average | | 43.9% | | 56.1% | | 4.4% |