



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 25, 2026

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #26

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in portions of PWS to gauge the strength of the wild stock return and provide information on run entry into PWS. An aerial survey of portions of the Eastern and Northern Districts was flown yesterday, July 24, and while escapement trends are improving, they remain below what is anticipated for this date. The department does not anticipate these stocks will sustain a consistent schedule of openers at this time. Aerial surveys of the Coghill, Northwestern, and Eshamy Districts are being flown today, and the Southeastern District is scheduled to be surveyed tomorrow.

While recent reports of more pink salmon showing up throughout PWS are encouraging, until those fish start to show up in steam counts and hatchery SHAs, conservative management following Monday's fishing periods will be warranted.

Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within PWS will be in effect.

EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, **south of 60° 50.00' N** will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, July 27. **Additionally, all waters of Port Gravina, north of 60° 42.50' N., and all waters of Sheep Bay, north of 60° 39.75' N, will be closed to commercial fishing during this period.** Waters inside the following Eastern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period to protect early-season escapement. Waters closed for this period include the following areas:

- (1) **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.;
- (2) **Landlocked Bay:** waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (3) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour fishing period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Monday, July 27.

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.

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 Monday, July 27.

Copies of the regulation booklet, *2025-2028 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound*, are available in the Cordova and Anchorage ADFG office. [2025-2028 Prince William Sound Area Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations](#)

ALL buyers purchasing fish in the PWS Management Area are required to complete a Processor Registration Form. Contact the Cordova office for any questions regarding registration.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be released by 2:00 pm on Wednesday, July 29.

Announcement recordings are available for gillnet fisheries at 907-424-7535 and seine fisheries at 907-424-7345.

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.