



## Advisory Announcement

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### Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #33

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT:** The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 13 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The standard management strategy for coho salmon is one or two 24-hour periods per week depending on escapement and harvest levels.

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.

For the week ending August 1, the Copper River Delta survey count was 37,569 sockeye salmon which falls within the anticipated range of 32,568–76,979. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 4,250 Chinook and 243,000 sockeye salmon.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Thursday, August 13 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. The standard management strategy for coho salmon in the Bering River District is to fish concurrent fishing time with the Copper River District. For the week ending August 1, the Bering River District survey count was 5,520 sockeye salmon, which is below the anticipated range of 8,409–18,499.

**ESHAMY DISTRICT:** The Main Bay Subdistrict will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 24-hour period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, August 13. The AGZ will open to **SET GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 2,395 sockeye salmon through 8/11 with a cumulative target of 5,405–11,641 fish for the date. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 24-hour period that started on Thursday, August 6 were

4,220 pink and 1,340 sockeye salmon with 34 deliveries reported. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 12-hour period that started on Monday, August 10, were 12,114 coho and 819 sockeye salmon with 37 deliveries reported.

**SEINE FISHERIES:** This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Thursday, August 13. Aerial surveys of all districts are expected to be conducted later this week, weather dependent, to further assess the strength of wild stock returns throughout PWS. Future commercial fishing periods targeting wild stock salmon will be dependent upon escapement, harvest, and effort.

**PWSAC recommends the AFK, CCH, and WNH SHAs, THAs, and corresponding hatchery subdistricts remain closed to build broodstock.**

Unless otherwise specified, all regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures are in effect. Alaska Fish Resource Monitor ([Alaska Fish Resource Monitor \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com)) has an interactive map highlighting approximate locations of cataloged anadromous streams. **(5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters).**

It is unlawful to drive or attempt to drive salmon from waters closed to salmon fishing. **(5 AAC 39.190. Driving salmon prohibited).**

The egg take at VFDA began Monday, August 3. Through August 10, VFDA has collected 16% of its 270 million pink salmon egg take goal. VFDA estimates that it has secured its broodstock needs at the hatchery. To date, VFDA has achieved 16% of its 2026 pink salmon revenue goal. Future cost recovery harvests will be conducted if a surplus becomes available.

PWSAC completed its 2026 pink salmon cost recovery goal on August 10. The female ratio of cost recovery pink salmon sampled on August 10 was AFK 36% female, CCH 26%, and WNH 35%.

Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period that occurred on August 11 were 624,000 pink salmon with 126 reported deliveries. The Department sampled Northern District sex ratio was 36.5% female.

**EASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Eastern District, south 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., will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

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

- (1) **Jack Bay:** south and east of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.34' N. lat., 146°35.27' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.17' N. lat., 146°39.77' W. long.;
- (2) **Sawmill Bay:** north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 61°02.71' N. lat., 146°46.44' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 61°02.58' N. lat., 146°47.07' W. long.
- (3) **Galena Bay:** 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) **Landlocked Bay:** waters north of 60°50.76' N. lat.;
- (5) **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.;
- (6) **Port Fidalgo Subdistrict:** waters east of 146°24.12' W. long.
- (7) **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.;

- (8) **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.;
- (9) **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.**

**NORTHERN DISTRICT**: Waters of the Northern District, excluding the Cannery Creek and Perry Island Subdistricts, and CCH THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

**Waters inside of the following Northern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period. Waters closed for this period include the following areas:**

- (1) **Long Bay**: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°57.63' N. lat., 147°13.50' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°57.01' N. lat., 147°15.47' W. long.;
- (2) **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.;
- (3) **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.;
- (4) **Wells Bay**: north of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°56.75' N. lat., 147°29.92' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°57.08' N. lat., 147°28.14' 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 Granite Bay and Esther Subdistricts and WNH THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine and drift gillnet harvest for a 12-hour fishing period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

**Waters inside of the following Coghill District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period. Waters closed for this period include the following areas:**

- (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°51.76' N. lat., 148°17.52' W. long.;
- (3) **Pigot Bay**: west of a line from a shore marker at approximately 60°49.96' N. lat., 148°19.07' W. long. to a shore marker at approximately 60°49.08' N. lat., 148°20.12' 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 Thursday, August 13.

**Waters inside of the following Northwestern District Salmon Harvest Task Force (SHTF) markers will be closed for this period. 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.

**MONTAGUE DISTRICT:** Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour fishing period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures will be in effect during this fishing period.

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT:** Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour fishing period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Thursday, August 13.

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 Friday, August 14.**

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.