



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 15, 2026

CONTACT: Todd Johnson and Jeremy Botz
Finfish Area Management Biologists
(907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #35

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Sunday, August 16.

Aerial surveys from the week of August 10 show improvement in wild stock escapement. Eastern, Coghill, Eshamy and Southeastern Districts are within anticipated ranges for the date. Aerial surveys are expected to continue next week, as weather permits. It is anticipated that future fishing opportunities will transition to a regular schedule of every other day.

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 \(arcgis.com\)](http://arcgis.com) has an interactive map highlighting approximate locations of cataloged anadromous streams. **(5 AAC 24.350 Closed Waters).**

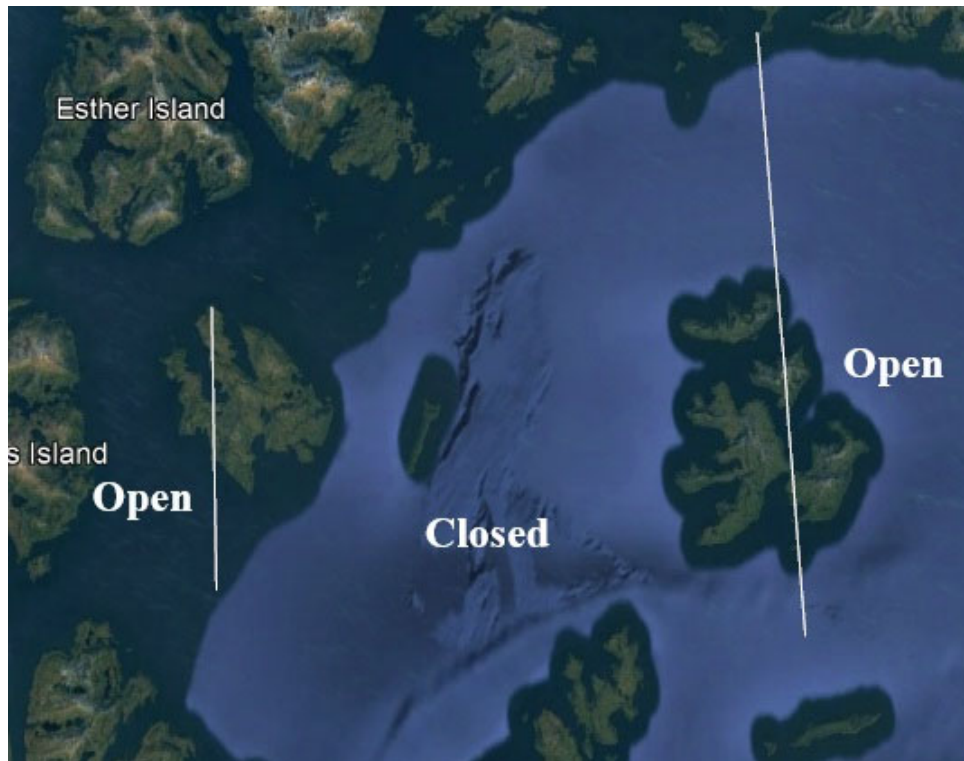
It is unlawful to drive or attempt to drive salmon from waters closed to salmon fishing. **(5 AAC 39.190. Driving salmon prohibited).**

Through August 15, VFDA has collected 26% of the 270 million pink salmon egg take goal. VFDA estimates that broodstock needs have been secured at the hatchery.

PWSAC completed its 2026 pink salmon cost recovery goal on August 10. PWSAC broodstock continues to build.

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 Sunday, August 16.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, east of a longitude line of 147° 23.00' W. (Granite Point) and west of a longitude line of 147° 57.69' W. lat. (Perry Point) will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Sunday, August 16. Anadromous stream closures within Hidden Bay will not be in effect during this fishing period.



COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District, excluding waters of the Esther Subdistrict 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 Sunday, August 16.

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 Sunday, August 16.

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 Sunday, August 16.

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 Sunday, August 16.

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 Monday, August 17.

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.