



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 17, 2026

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #36

SEINE FISHERIES: This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Tuesday, August 18.

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, as weather permits.

PWSAC completed its 2026 pink salmon cost recovery goal on August 10. Broodstock continues to build at AFK, CCH and WNH.

PWSAC recommends the AFK, CCH, and WNH SHAs and THAs remain closed. PWSAC has recommended that the Esther subdistrict be opened to commercial fishing. Subdistricts for AFK and CCH will remain closed.

Through August 17, VFDA has collected ~38% of the 270 million pink salmon egg take goal. VFDA estimates that broodstock needs have been secured at the hatchery and will attempt to take a limit amount of cost recovery fish today.

Preliminary harvest estimates from the fishing period on August 16 were 344,000 pink, 6,800 coho and 27,000 chum salmon with 117 reported deliveries. Preliminary harvests by district are as follows:

- Eastern District harvest was 22,000 pink, 4,500 coho and 26,600 chum salmon with 28 deliveries
- Northern District harvest was 237,000 pink, 800 coho and 224 chum salmon with 38 deliveries
- Coghill District harvest 22,000 pink, 900 coho and 55 chum salmon with 36 deliveries
- Northwestern District harvest was 56,900, pink, 381 coho and 201 chum salmon with 11 deliveries
- Montague District harvest was 6,200 pink, 300 coho, and 15 chum salmon with 4 deliveries
- Southeastern District 0 deliveries

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 Tuesday, August 18.

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 Tuesday, August 18. Anadromous stream closures within Hidden Bay will not be in effect during this fishing period.



COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Coghill District, excluding waters of the 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 Tuesday, August 18.

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 Tuesday, August 18.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southwestern District, north of the latitude of 60° 8.00' N and east of Point Helen (147° 46.27' W.), will open to commercial purse seine fishing for a 12-hour period, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, on Tuesday, August 18.



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 Tuesday, August 18.

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 Tuesday, August 18.

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, August 19.

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.