



Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: September 4, 2026

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #47

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 7 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period.

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.
Little Softuk	60° 13.16' N.	144° 41.38' W.

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 September 5, the Copper River Delta survey count was 21,840 coho salmon which falls within the anticipated range of 21,447–44,904. Harvest estimates from the 12-hour fishing period that started on Thursday, September 3 were 26,800 coho salmon with 157 deliveries reported. The cumulative commercial harvest to date is 4,250 Chinook, 243,000 sockeye, and 155,000 coho salmon.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open at 7:00 am on Monday, September 7 for a 24-hour commercial drift gillnet fishing period. For the week ending September 5, the Bering River District survey count was 10,370 coho salmon which falls within the anticipated range of 8,803–22,345. Harvest estimates from the 12-hour fishing period that started on Monday, August 31 were 7,970 coho salmon with 32 deliveries reported.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The Coghill District, excluding the WNH SHA, will open to commercial **drift gillnet** harvest for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Monday, September 7 through Wednesday, September 9. Preliminary harvest estimates from the 12-hour period that started on Thursday, September 3 were 2,810 coho salmon with 25 deliveries reported. The cumulative coho salmon harvest to date in the Coghill District is 22,300 fish.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: The Eshamy District, excluding the MBH AGZ, will open to commercial **drift gillnet** harvest for a **36-hour** period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, September 7. The Eshamy District will open to commercial **set gillnet** harvest for a **24-hour** period starting at 8:00 am on Monday, September 7. The MBH AGZ will open to **SET GILLNET** permit holders only during this fishing period.

The Eshamy River weir has passed 14,966 sockeye salmon through 9/3 with a cumulative target of 11,740–25,286 fish for the date.

SEINE FISHERIES: Fishermen should confirm their market before fishing. This announcement will provide time and area specifics for a broad area commercial purse seine fishing opportunity in PWS on Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.

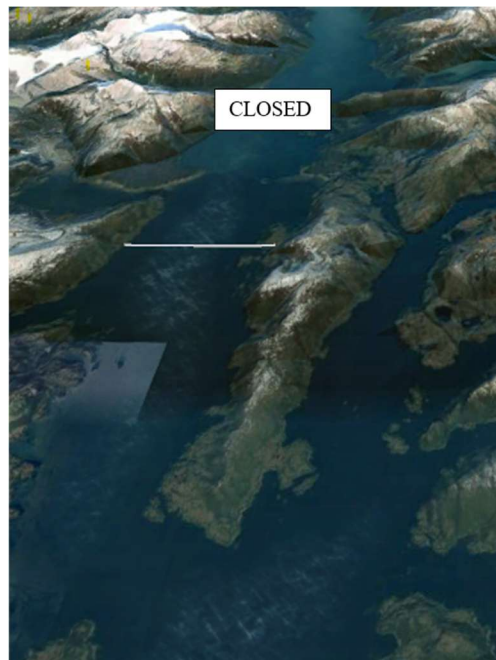
Through September 4, WNH, AFK and CCH have collected 81%, 68%, and 55% of the egg take goals, respectively. PWSAC completed its 2026 pink salmon cost recovery goal on August 10.

Through September 3, VFDA has collected 87% of the 270 million pink salmon egg take goal. VFDA estimates that broodstock needs have been secured at the hatchery.

No harvest has been reported since September 1.

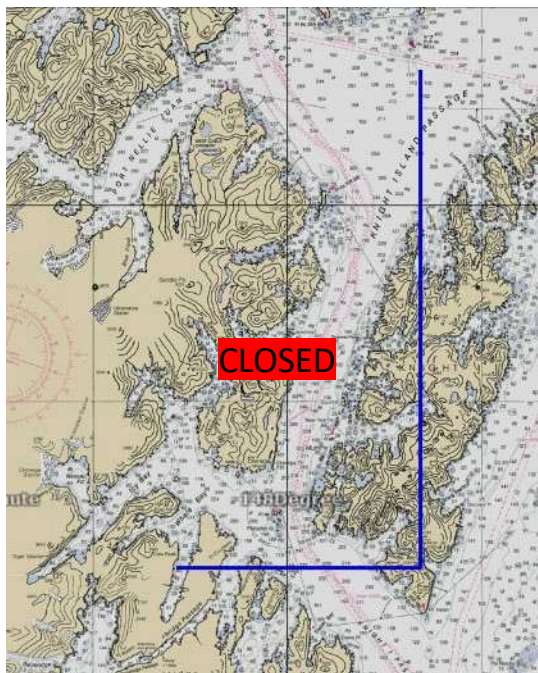
EASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Eastern District, **south of the latitude of 60° 57.00' N.**, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.

NORTHERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northern District, **excluding** waters of the Cannery Creek Subdistricts north of a latitude **60° 59.10' N.** and CCH THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.



NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Northwestern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southwestern District, south of the latitude of 60° 11.50' N and east of Point Helen (147° 46.27' W.) and excluding waters of the Port San Juan and Pt. Elrington Subdistricts and the AFK THA and SHA, will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.



MONTAGUE DISTRICT: Waters of the Montague District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT: Waters of the Southeastern District will open to commercial purse seine fishing for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Saturday, September 5 through Friday, September 11.

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 gillnet salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be released by 2:00 pm on Wednesday, September 9.

The next scheduled seine fisheries announcement is anticipated to be released by 2:00 pm on Friday, September 11.

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.