



Advisory Announcement

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Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #53

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The Copper River District will open for a 36-hour period starting at 7:00 am on Monday, September 21 and a 36-hour period starting at 7:00 am on Thursday, September 24.

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 12, the Copper River Delta survey count was 40,780 coho salmon which is above the anticipated range of 18,286–38,285. Harvest estimates from the 24-hour fishing period that started on Monday, September 14 were 12,300 coho salmon with 130 deliveries reported.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The Bering River District will open for a 36-hour period starting at 7:00 am on Monday, September 21 and a 36-hour period starting at 7:00 am on Thursday, September 24. For the week ending September 12, the Bering River District survey count was 17,200 coho salmon which falls within the anticipated range of 6,969–17,691. Harvest estimates from the 24-hour fishing period that started on Monday, September 14 were 2,550 coho salmon with 29 deliveries reported.

COGHILL DISTRICT: Waters of the Esther Subdistrict, excluding waters of the WNH THA and SHA, will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for daily 12-hour periods, from 8:00 am until 8:00 pm, from Thursday, September 17 through Friday, September 25. PWSAC recommends closing the WNH THA and SHA to secure additional broodstock. The last reported harvest in the Coghill District was on Monday, September 14 when 391 coho salmon were harvested with 5 deliveries reported. The Coghill District will close for the season at 8:00 pm on Friday, September 25.

ESHAMY DISTRICT: The Eshamy District will open to commercial **drift gillnet** harvest for a **36-hour** period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, September 17. The Eshamy District will open to commercial **set gillnet** harvest for a **12-hour** period starting at 8:00 am on Thursday, September 17. The MBH AGZ will open to **SET GILLNET** permit holders only during the first 12 hours of this fishing period. The MBH AGZ will open to **DRIFT GILLNET** permit holders during the last 24 hours of this fishing period. No harvest has been reported in the Eshamy District since the 36-hour period that started on September 3. The Eshamy District commercial fishing season will close at 8:00 pm on Friday, September 18.

The Eshamy River weir passed 14,966 sockeye salmon through 9/3 with a cumulative target of 11,740–25,286 fish for the date. The Eshamy River weir was pulled for the season on 9/4.

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 Friday, September 25.

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.