

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Cordova Area Office
401 Railroad Ave.
Cordova, AK 99574



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

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CONTACT: Heather Scannell and Jeremy Botz

Finfish Area Management Biologists

(907) 424-3212

Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery Announcement #70

COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: The 2022 commercial salmon fishing season in the Copper River District is closed effective 8:00 pm on Wednesday, September 28. The next aerial survey will be flown when conditions permit. For the week ending September 24, the Copper River Delta survey count was 18,630 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 15,542 – 32,540. Survey conditions were good to fair during this flight, but a few index reaches were poor to unsurveyable due to high turbidity. Peak coho salmon survey counts to date are approximately 20,400 fish versus an escapement goal range of 32,000 to 67,000 fish.

The Copper River District will open to subsistence fishing at 8:00 pm on Friday, September 30 through October 31, seven days a week. Prince William Sound Management Area salmon subsistence permits may be obtained through any ADF&G office or online (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/>). **In Cordova, permits will be available during normal business hours Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** ADF&G staff will not be available to issue permits before hours, after hours, on state holidays, or on weekends. Permit holders are encouraged to call the Cordova office at 907-424-3212 or report online (<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest/>) to provide preliminary harvest reports to assist with inseason harvest tracking.

BERING RIVER DISTRICT: The 2022 commercial salmon fishing season in the Bering River District is closed effective 8:00 pm on Wednesday, September 28. The fishery is closed due to survey counts remaining below weekly escapement targets. For the week ending September 10, the Bering River District survey count was 4,595 coho salmon versus an anticipated range of 6,969 – 17,691.

COGHILL DISTRICT: The 2022 commercial salmon fishing season in the Coghill District is closed effective 8:00 pm on Wednesday, September 28. The last commercial salmon harvest reported in the district was during the fishing period that started on Monday, September 12.

Copies of the updated regulation booklet, *2022-2024 Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations for Prince William Sound*, are **not** yet available in the Cordova ADFG office. In the interim, please reference: [2022-2024 Prince William Sound Area Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations \(alaska.gov\)](https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/2022-2024-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.

Permit holders are advised that unscheduled announcements based on current escapement data may occur at anytime inseason either establishing an additional period or extending an open period.

Announcement recordings are available for **gillnet fisheries at 907-424-7535 and seine fisheries at 907-424-7345. In addition, announcement recordings are available in Anchorage at 267-2843.**

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 CopperRiver 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.