

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



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### 2008 Prince William Sound Salmon Fishery News Release #9

#### Prince William Sound and Copper River Announcement

Districts Affected: Bering River, Copper River, Coghill, Eshamy Main Bay, Southwestern,  
Montague, Unakwik

**COPPER RIVER DISTRICT: There is no commercial opening anticipated for the remainder of this week.**

A commercial opening is anticipated for Monday, June 16.

The harvest from the Monday, June 9 opening was 44,579 sockeye and 847 Chinook salmon.

As of yesterday a total of 258,234 salmon have been counted by the sonar at Miles Lake since counting started on May 16. The anticipated cumulative minimum inriver escapement count for this date is 287,029. This is a cumulative shortfall of 28,795 salmon. Sonar numbers to date are shown below.

Date	Water Level (m)	Preliminary daily escapement Miles Lake sonar counts						Minimum Inriver Escapement Goal	
		North Bank Count	South Bank Count	NB + SB Counts	Season Cumulative	Midnite to 0600 Count	Expanded 0600 count	Daily	Cumulative
5/16	39.20	NA	84	84	84	6	24	398	398
5/17	39.14	NA	192	192	276	60	240	630	1,028
5/18	39.07	90	402	492	768	102	408	1,893	2,921
5/19	39.09	258	1,375	1,633	2,401	207	828	3,325	6,247
5/20	39.11	772	3,816	4,588	6,989	864	3,456	4,846	11,093
5/21	39.28	759	5,994	6,753	13,742	1,494	5,976	5,467	16,560
5/22	39.39	960	3,684	4,644	18,386	1,200	4,800	8,414	24,974
5/23	39.53	795	4,134	4,929	23,315	804	3,216	9,602	34,576
5/24	39.56	1,950	4,911	6,861	30,176	1,443	5,772	10,598	45,175
5/25	39.68	1,342	4,314	5,656	35,832	1,152	4,608	12,097	57,271
5/26	39.94	3,182	3,360	6,542	42,374	1,098	4,392	14,928	72,200
5/27	40.41	3,739	3,696	7,435	49,809	1,507	6,028	14,130	86,330
5/28	40.57	3,456	7,326	10,782	60,591	1,994	7,976	15,027	101,357
5/29	40.84	3,700	6,042	9,742	70,333	2,424	9,696	15,082	116,438
5/30	41.00	3,463	7,092	10,555	80,876	2,148	8,592	16,463	132,902
5/31	40.80	4,788	9,798	14,586	95,462	2,742	10,968	14,437	147,339
6/1	40.63	4,646	13,280	17,926	113,388	4,116	16,464	16,565	163,903
6/2	40.52	8,530	14,802	23,332	136,720	4,853	19,412	14,977	178,880
6/3	40.50	7,124	20,442	27,566	164,286	5,412	21,648	14,843	193,723

6/4	40.50	5,233	20,022	25,255	189,541	5,875	23,500	13,686	207,409
6/5	40.55	4,795	10,278	15,073	204,614	3,404	13,616	14,878	222,286
6/6	40.43	3,584	9,762	13,346	217,960	2,848	11,392	12,638	234,924
6/7	40.33	3,251	8,184	11,435	229,395	2,329	9,316	13,864	248,788
6/8	40.36	2,170	6,168	8,338	237,733	2,173	8,692	14,523	263,311
6/9	40.27	2,947	5,842	8,789	246,522	1,787	7,148	12,508	275,820
6/10	40.51	1,968	9,744	11,712	258,234	2,250	9,000	11,210	287,029
6/11	40.66	NA	NA	NA	NA	3,432	13,728	10,235	297,264

Sonar numbers are posted on the ADF&G website at <http://csfish.adfg.state.ak.us/pws/pwscopperesc.php>.

The Copper River District will open for a 24-hour **subsistence only** drift gillnet period from 7:00 am, Thursday, June 12 to 7:00 am on Friday, June 13.

**BERING RIVER DISTRICT:** The Bering River District is closed. The Bering River District is anticipated to open when the Copper River District is reopened to commercial harvest. The commercial harvest from the Monday, June 9 period was 664 sockeye and 19 Chinook salmon.

**COGHILL DISTRICT:** The Coghill District, excluding the Esther Subdistrict will open to commercial drift gillnet harvest for a 48-hour period from 8:00 am on Thursday, June 12 until 8:00 am on Saturday, June 14. The Esther Subdistrict excluding the WNH SHA and THA will open for a 24-hour period from 8:00 am on Thursday, June 12 until 8:00 am on Friday, June 13. Harvest numbers from the period that closed at 8:00 this morning are not available yet. The harvest from the period that closed on Sunday, June 8 was 120,254 chum salmon and 92 sockeye salmon. PWSAC will commence cost recovery on Monday, June 16.

**ESHAMY DISTRICT:** The Eshamy District will open to commercial gillnet harvest for a 48-hour period from 8:00 am on Thursday, June 12 until 8:00 am on Saturday, June 14. The AGZ will be open to set gillnet only harvest during this period. The AGZ will be closed to drift gillnet harvest during this time. Harvest numbers from the period that closed at 8:00 am this morning are not available yet. The harvest from the period that closed on Sunday, June 8 was 1,443 chum salmon and 40 sockeye salmon.

**UNAKWIK DISTRICT:** The Unakwik District is anticipated to open to commercial harvest on Monday, June 16.

**PORT CHALMERS SUBDISTRICT:** The Port Chalmers Subdistrict remains open to purse seine fishing on a regular schedule of open periods from Monday at 8:00 am through Sunday at 8:00 pm. Regulatory closed waters and anadromous stream closures within the Port Chalmers Subdistrict will not be in effect until further notice. The harvest during the last fishing period (06/02-06/08) in Port Chalmers was approximately 108,000 chum salmon for a cumulative harvest total of 154,000.

**SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT:** On the east side of Knight Island, the waters of Marsha Bay, west of 147° 39.75' W. long., opened to purse seine fishing on Monday, June 09 at 8:00 am and will close Sunday, June 15 at 8:00 pm. This begins a regular schedule of open periods from Monday at 8:00 am to Sunday at 8:00 pm. This schedule will remain in effect until further notice. Anadromous stream closures within Marsha Bay will not be in effect until further notice. This opening is intended to target a forecast return of 23,000 remote release sockeye salmon. These sockeye salmon have an average run timing of June 15 to August 1.

The waters of the AFK Hatchery Terminal Harvest Area (THA) and Special Harvest Area (SHA) remain open to commercial purse seine fishing on a regular schedule of fishing periods from Monday at 8:00 am through Sunday at 8:00 pm. Anadromous stream closures within the AFK Hatchery THA and SHA will not be in effect until further notice. Harvest from the last fishing period (06/02-06/08) in the AFK THA and SHA is confidential.

The next scheduled salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be at 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 14.

Announcement recordings are available at 907-424-7535.

Additionally, announcements, inseason harvest data, and escapement data are available at the following web addresses:

<http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region2/crhome.php> (Copper River homepage) or

<http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us/region2/pwshome.php> (Prince William Sound 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.