

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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P.O. Box 230
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**Westside Salmon Announcement 25
Emergency Order 27**

This is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham with an announcement regarding commercial fishing in the Nushagak District. This is Westside salmon announcement number 25 issued Thursday, July 4, at 12:00 noon.

Wood River escapement was 78,000 yesterday and 13,000 at 6:00 a.m. this morning for a cumulative of 1.03 million. Nushagak sockeye salmon escapement was 23,500 yesterday for a cumulative of 428,000. Nushagak king salmon escapement was 46 yesterday for a cumulative of 37,100. Harvest in the Nushagak District was 692,000 sockeye salmon yesterday for a cumulative of 7.1 million and 288 king salmon for a cumulative of 17,100. There are currently 821 permits and 624 vessels registered for the Nushagak District.

It is likely that the Wood River will exceed 1.1 million sockeye salmon escapement by tomorrow morning. When 1.1 million is reached, we will do an announcement to open the Wood River Special Harvest Area (WRSHA) to commercial fishing. This could happen as early as tomorrow afternoon. Since the current harvest percentages are 80.6 % drift to 19.4 % set, the WRSHA will be open to set gillnet fishing only. Permit holders are reminded that the Board of Fisheries took action in December that changed the minimum distance between set gillnets in the WRSHA to 250 feet.

As previously announced, commercial fishing with drift gillnets will open in the Nushagak District from 3:30 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. July 4. Commercial fishing with drift gillnets will open in the Nushagak District from 3:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. July 5. Tenders and processors please use stat area 325-00 for drift gillnet fish tickets.

This has been the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham.

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