

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



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Commissioner
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King Salmon, Alaska
P.O. Box 37
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Date Issued: July 17, 2019
Time: 6:00 p.m.

**Bristol Bay Eastside Salmon Announcement # 61 Revised
EO 70 and 71**

This is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in King Salmon with a revised announcement for Naknek-Kvichak and Egegik District fishermen to clarify drift gillnet specifications. The time is 6:00 p.m. and the date is Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

The Naknek River escapement at 2:00 p.m. today was 82,000 for a cumulative of 2.3 million; the Kvichak River escapement at 2:00 p.m. today was 28,000 for a cumulative of 1,354,000. The Kvichak in-river estimate based on an aerial survey is 300,000. The harvest allocation through the allocation period was 77% drift, 14% Naknek set, and 9% Kvichak set.

The Kvichak River is tracking more than one day behind the minimum escapement goal curve of 2 million fish and conservation measures are warranted. At 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 17 the Naknek-Kvichak District will close for two tides. The Naknek River Special Harvest Area will open to drift gillnet gear for two tides. After these two tides the Naknek-Kvichak District will reopen by emergency order.

Because of the short notice, short time period involved, and the late date of the season dual drift vessels may continue fishing with 200 fathoms of drift gillnet gear in the Egegik and Nushagak Districts. In the Naknek River Special Harvest Area drift gillnet vessels will be restricted to fishing with no more than 75 fathoms and a vessel may not have more than 150 fathoms on board.

The Naknek River Special Harvest Area will open to drift gillnet gear for a 9-hour period from 2:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Thursday, July 18 and again for a 6.5-hour period from 2:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 18. The current set gillnet period in the Naknek-Kvichak District will close at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 17.

Commercial salmon fishing in the Egegik District will continue as previously announced, except that from 2:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 18, 2019 fishing will only be permitted within the Egegik River Special Harvest Area, for both set and drift gillnet gear. After 8:30 p.m. Thursday July 18, the entire Egegik District will reopen to commercial salmon fishing. The boundaries of the district will be as found in 5 AAC 06.359 (b) Egegik River Sockeye Salmon Special Harvest Area Management Plan.

Fishermen in the Naknek-Kvichak District should stand-by at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, July 18 for the next possible announcement.

This has been the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game in King Salmon.

Read on VHF 7: 6:00 p.m., July 17, 2019
Connected EO's: 2F-T-71-19; 2F-T-70-19