

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

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COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN IN NORTON SOUND

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 48 hours in Subdistricts 1, 2 and 3 the Nome, Golovin and Elim Subdistricts beginning Thursday evening, August 27. Permit holders are limited to 100 fathoms of gillnet in aggregate length and gillnets must have a mesh size of 6 inches or smaller. Golovin and Elim Subdistricts will be open to commercial salmon fishing from 6 p.m. Thursday until 6 p.m. Saturday and Nome Subdistrict will be open to commercial salmon fishing from 9 p.m. Thursday until 9 p.m. Saturday.

Commercial salmon fishing will be open in Subdistricts 5 and 6, the Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts for 24 hours from 6 p.m. Friday, August 28 until 6 p.m. Saturday, August 29. Permit holders are limited to 100 fathoms of gillnet in aggregate length and gillnets must have a mesh size of 6 inches or smaller.

Silver salmon escapement although below average in Shaktoolik and Unalakleet has picked up the past week and farther to the north silver salmon escapement has been near the historical average for the last week of August.

Permit holders must be in possession of a 2020 Norton Sound commercial salmon permit and a government issued i.d. card or driver's license. All crewmembers must have a 2020 commercial crewmember's license, or any 2020 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit can substitute for a crewmember's license.

Here are the cumulative escapement counts:

North River: 1,400 silvers
Shaktoolik River: 2,800 silvers
Ungalik River: 1,500 silvers
Kwiniuk River: 4,500 silvers
Nome River: 1,000 silvers
Snake River: 400 silvers

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>