

Division of Commercial Fisheries
Sam Rabung, Director

Headquarters Office
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526



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

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

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 1, 2022

CONTACT: Jim Menard or Kevin Clark

**Norton Sound Area Manager & Asst. Area Manager
(907) 443-5167 (800) 560-2271**

SOUTHERN NORTON SOUND COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing will be open for 48 hours in Norton Sound Subdistricts 5 and 6, Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts, from 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 2 until 6:00 p.m. Thursday, August 4. Gillnets are restricted to 6-inch stretched mesh, or smaller. King salmon may not be sold but can be retained for personal use.

Last week's fishing period in Shaktoolik and Unalakleet had below average catches of silver salmon. In August, silver catches should exceed chum catches and this 48-hour fishing period will be an early indication of silver salmon run strength. There is a weather window midweek with moderate seas and more of the fleet should be able to get out fishing.

Weather had prevented all salmon counting projects from operating recently, but now only the Unalakleet River weir, and Shaktoolik River and North River towers are still not counting. The water will need to drop two feet before the Unalakleet weir is again operational but clearing water conditions should allow the tower crews to resume counting soon.

Current salmon escapement in Norton Sound:

Inglutalik River: 177 kings, 5,900 chums, 35,000 pinks, 3 silvers
Kwiniuk River: 33 kings, 9,400 chums, 400,000 pinks, 15 sockeyes, 6 silvers
Niukluk River: 42 kings, 35,000 chums, 300,000 pinks, 900 sockeyes, 3 silvers
Nome River: 3 kings, 1,000 chums, 40,000 pinks, 9 sockeyes, 50 silvers
North River: 1,119 kings, 1,100 chums, 687,000 pinks, 66 sockeyes, 93 silvers
Pilgrim River: 30 kings, 1,700 chums, 5,000 pinks, 1,170 sockeyes
Shaktoolik River: 975 kings, 13,300 chums, 1.4 million pinks, 159 sockeyes
Snake River: 3 kings, 2,800 chums, 35,000 pinks, 223 sockeyes, 2 silvers
Unalakleet River: 95 kings, 6,300 chums, 315 reds, 21 silvers
Ungalik River: 783 kings, 16,000 chums, 576,000 pinks, 33 sockeyes, 1,500 silvers