

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

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COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO REOPEN IN NORTHERN NORTON SOUND

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing will be open for 48 hours in Norton Sound Subdistricts 1, 2, 3, and 4, the Nome, Golovin, Elim, and Norton Bay Subdistricts. In Golovin, Elim and Norton Bay Subdistricts fishing will be open from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3, until 6 p.m. Friday, August 5. In Nome Subdistrict fishing will be open from 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3 until 9:00 pm. Friday, August 5. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate length for all fishing locations.

The previous 48-hour fishing period had above average chum salmon catches for this late in the chum salmon run and silver salmon catches were below average for early August. Escapement goals for chum salmon have been reached in four of five rivers in northern Norton Sound and the goal in the fifth river is projected to be reached.

All northern Norton Sound salmon escapement counting projects are again operational after being knocked out by high water. The department thanks Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation for over two decades of operating and supporting numerous salmon counting projects throughout Norton Sound.

Silvers are slowly building in Norton Sound rivers and when the silver salmon catch exceeds the chum salmon catch the department will shift to silver salmon management in the commercial fishery.

Current salmon escapement in Norton Sound:

Inglutalik River: 177 kings, 6,000 chums, 37,000 pinks, 12 silvers
Kwiniuk River: 33 kings, 9,400 chums, 400,000 pinks, 15 sockeyes, 15 silvers
Niukluk River: 42 kings, 35,000 chums, 300,000 pinks, 900 sockeyes, 18 silvers
Nome River: 4 kings, 1,100 chums, 43,000 pinks, 11 sockeyes, 86 silvers
North River: 1,119 kings, 1,100 chums, 687,000 pinks, 66 sockeyes, 93 silvers
Pilgrim River: 30 kings, 1,900 chums, 5,000 pinks, 1,200 sockeyes, 2 silvers
Shaktoolik River: 975 kings, 13,300 chums, 1.4 million pinks, 159 sockeyes
Snake River: 3 kings, 3,200 chums, 39,000 pinks, 250 sockeyes, 6 silvers
Solomon River: 157 chums, 6,300 pinks, 27 silvers
Unalakleet River: 96 kings, 6,900 chums, 330 reds, 124 silvers
Ungalik River: 783 kings, 16,000 chums, 590,000 pinks, 33 sockeyes, 2,800 silvers