

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 27, 2024

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COMMERCIAL FISHING SCHEDULE FOR NORTON SOUND SUBDISTRICTS 4–6

Commercial Salmon Fishing Periods by Subdistrict:

Norton Bay Subdistrict 4

- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27 until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 29.
- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 31 until 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 2.
- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3 until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 5.

Shaktoolik Subdistrict 5

- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27 until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 29.
- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 31 until 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 2.
- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3 until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 5.

Unalakleet Subdistrict 6

- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27 until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 29.
- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 31 until 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 2.
- Commercial fishing will open for 48 hours from 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3 until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 5.

All commercial fishing periods are restricted to gillnet mesh size of 6 inches or smaller.

The most recent commercial opener in southern Norton Sound had coho salmon catch rates near or above long-term historical averages, suggesting a harvestable surplus in the region. Additionally, the sonar project at the Unalakleet weir site has recently been able to observe coho salmon escapement upriver and the department has received reports from southern Norton Sound that subsistence needs are being met. These commercial fishing periods are expected to be the final openings before the regulatory end of the fishing season on September 7.

Permit holders are reminded to ensure they have a market for their catch.

This fisheries announcement does not affect any other subsistence fisheries schedules, restrictions, or closures.