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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 15, 2026

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Norton Sound Advisory Announcement #8

SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING IN SUBDISTRICTS 5 & 6

Emergency Order: 3-Z-5S-26

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Nome for subsistence salmon fishing in Shaktoolik Subdistrict 5 and Unalakleet Subdistrict 6.

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 5 and 6:

- Effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 16, marine waters of Subdistricts 5 and 6 will open to gillnet gear with mesh size restricted to 6 inches, or less.

As Previously Announced:

- Freshwater of Subdistricts 5 and 6 will remain closed to gillnet fishing except in the Unalakleet River upstream of the North River confluence where set gillnets with mesh size restricted to 4 inches or less are allowed to target non-salmon species.
- Beach seines are allowed in the fresh waters of Subdistricts of 5 and 6 with the non-retention of king salmon. Any king salmon caught must be returned immediately to the water unharmed.

All escapement monitoring projects in southern Norton Sound are currently operable, but escapement has been weak and will likely not meet escapement objectives. Historically, the bulk of the king salmon returns have migrated through marine waters by this time and any harvest in the marine waters is not expected to greatly influence current escapements.

For any questions regarding this Advisory Announcement please call Fish & Game in Nome at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271.