

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



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P.O. Box 1148  
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Date Issued: 7/7/2014  
Time: 4:00 p.m.

**SUBDISTRICTS 2–4 COMMERCIAL CHUM SALMON OPENINGS**

Chum salmon abundance throughout Norton Sound this season has been above average for the first week of July. Additional commercial fishing time is warranted to utilize chum salmon surpluses and commercial openings directed at chum salmon are scheduled throughout Norton Sound this week. Fishing times and gear restrictions for each subdistrict are as follows:

**Norton Sound Subdistrict 1: Nome Subdistrict**

The Nome Subdistrict escapement range of 23,000–35,000 chum salmon is projected to be easily exceeded for the fifth consecutive year. Chum salmon escapement needs east of Cape Nome have already been achieved and chum salmon escapements west of Cape Nome are at near record levels for early July. As a result, the department is expanding to a 5-day a week subsistence set gillnet fishing schedule for the marine waters west of Cape Nome through July 26. An announcement will be made tomorrow concerning upcoming commercial openings for the Nome Subdistrict.

**Norton Sound Subdistricts 2–4: Golovin, Elim, and Norton Bay Subdistricts**

Norton Sound Subdistricts 2–4 will reopen to commercial salmon fishing for two 48-hour periods from 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 8 to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 10, and from 6:00 p.m. Saturday July 12 to 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 14. Permit holders are limited to 100 fathoms of net in aggregate length and gillnets must have a mesh size of 6 inches or less. Escapement of chum salmon at the Kwiniuk River tower east of Elim is 25,131 fish, which is above the upper end of the escapement goal range of 11,500–23,000 chum salmon. Additionally, approximately 65,000 chum salmon have been enumerated at the Inglutalik River tower in the Norton Bay Subdistrict which is the largest count in the project's 4-year history.

**Norton Sound Subdistricts 5 and 6: Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts**

The buyer will consult with the department tomorrow morning about fishing schedules for Shaktoolik and Unalakleet. Fishing is expected to resume at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 8 but fishing time and gear restrictions for upcoming periods have not been decided at this time. Stay tuned an announcement for openings in Subdistricts 5 and 6 will be made tomorrow.