

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Contact:

Jim Menard, Area Management Biologist

Scott Kent, Assistant Management Biologist

Phone: (907) 443-5167

Fax: (907) 443-5893

Norton Sound Area Office

Pouch 1148

Nome, AK, 99762

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### **NOME AREA SUBSISTENCE PINK SALMON LIMITS WAIVED IN ALL WATERS AND CHUM SALMON LIMITS WAIVED IN MOST WATERS**

Effective Monday, July 14, pink salmon subsistence salmon catch limits in all waters of the Nome Subdistrict are waived and chum salmon subsistence catch limits are waived for all waters except for the Solomon River, Penny River and Cripple River.

Chum salmon and pink salmon escapement goals have been reached or have been projected to be reached in all rivers with escapement goals in the Nome Subdistrict. There is no subsistence salmon catch limit in marine waters and previously chum and pink salmon catch limits were waived in fresh waters east of Cape Nome, except Solomon River.

The Eldorado River serves as an index river for escapement to rivers in eastern Nome Subdistrict. The escapement goal range at Eldorado River weir is 6,000 to 9,200 chum salmon and over 16,000 chum salmon have passed the weir. The average historical midpoint of chum salmon passage at the weir is mid-July.

West of Cape Nome the Nome River escapement goal range is 2,900 to 4,300 chum salmon and the Snake River escapement goal range is 1,600 to 2,500 chum salmon. The average historical first quarter point of chum passage at the weirs is mid-July and over 2,000 chum salmon have passed Nome River weir and over 1,300 chum salmon have passed Snake River weir. The Nome River weir has a pink salmon escapement goal of 13,000 fish during even-numbered years. In even-numbered years the average historical midpoint of pink salmon passage at the weir is mid-July and Nome River weir passage is now over 17,000 pink salmon.

By Alaska Board of Fisheries regulation the Penny and Cripple River are closed to chum salmon subsistence fishing. The Solomon River has a much smaller run of chum salmon compared to other rivers in eastern Nome Subdistrict and the subsistence catch limit of 40 chum salmon remains in effect.

Fishermen are reminded to check the back of their Nome Subdistrict subsistence salmon permit for the areas open to subsistence set gillnet fishing and beach seining in each river. Subsistence beach seining is allowed during the scheduled subsistence set gillnet openings through July 25.