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

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SUBSISTENCE SOCKEYE CATCH LIMIT WAIVED AT PILGRIM RIVER

Over 12,000 sockeye salmon have now passed the Pilgrim River weir. Run timing projections show a final count of over 20,000 sockeye salmon for the season. The escapement goal range at Salmon Lake of 4,000 to 8,000 sockeye salmon observed by aerial survey will easily be exceeded. Therefore, the department will waive subsistence sockeye salmon catch limits in the Pilgrim River effective noon, Friday, July 17.

Subsistence salmon permit holders who have already turned in their permits at the Nome Fish & Game office can pick them up if they want to fish at Pilgrim River again.

Elsewhere in Norton Sound the chum salmon runs are one of the best since the 1980s. The commercial catch has surpassed 110,000 chum salmon and will easily be the greatest harvest since 1988.

Here are the escapement counts in Norton Sound this season:

North River: 1,200 kings, 9,000 chums, 42,000 pinks.
Unalakleet River: 2,200 kings, 55,000 chums, 95,000 pinks, 600 sockeyes, 50 silvers.
Shaktoolik River: 600 kings, 17,000 chums, 80,000 pinks.
Inglutalik River: 1,400 kings, 29,000 chums, 55,000 pinks.
Kwiniuk River: 275 kings, 33,000 chums, 4,000 pinks.
Fish River: 2,100 kings, 115,000 chums, 65,000 pinks.
Solomon River: 350 chums, 200 pinks.
Eldorado River: 12 kings, 20,000 chums, 600 pinks.
Nome River: 2 kings, 1,900 chums, 11,000 pinks, 10 sockeyes, 7 silvers.
Snake River: 1,800 chums, 1,000 pinks.
Glacial Lake: 1,600 sockeyes.
Pilgrim River: 60 kings, 5,000 chums, 150 pinks, 12,000 sockeyes.

Good Luck and Good Fishing!