

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



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**2015 Kuskokwim Bay Salmon Fishery News Release 13
Emergency Order #3-S-WB-14-15**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Bethel for subsistence and commercial salmon fisherman in the Kuskokwim Area.

District 4, Quinhagak

District 4, Quinhagak, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, 2015.

Commercial salmon fishing opened Wednesday, August 5, 2015, with preliminary harvest from that period being 73 Chinook, 384 sockeye, 405 chum, and 3,298 coho salmon from 53 permits.

As of August 5, total passage through the Kanektok River Weir is 9,523 Chinook, 101,989 sockeye, 13,436 chum, and 1,045 coho salmon. Chinook salmon escapement (third highest on record) is above average for this date, while the escapements of sockeye and chum salmon are below average. The coho salmon escapement is average for this time of year.

District 5, Goodnews Bay

District 5, Goodnews Bay, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, 2015.

As of August 5, total passage through the Middle Fork Goodnews Weir is 1,355 Chinook, 53,387 sockeye, 9,771 chum, and 43 coho salmon. Sockeye salmon escapement is above average and has exceeded the upper bound of the biological escapement goal (18,000–40,000 fish). Chinook and chum salmon passage are below average, while coho salmon escapement is below average for this time of year.

The Department will be closely monitoring commercial fishing periods to assess fishery performance and anticipates announcing additional commercial fishing periods as warranted.

Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the state web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), local radio stations, and faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

Commercial fishermen are encouraged to consult Fish and Game regulations prior to beginning commercial fishing operations.

For additional information or questions regarding Districts 4 and 5 and Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 855-933-2433.