

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
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P.O. Box 1148
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Date Issued: July 4, 2016
Time: 12:00 p.m.

NEXT NORTON SOUND COMMERCIAL SALMON OPENINGS

Commercial salmon fishing will open for 16 hours, from 8 a.m. until 12 midnight on July 5 through July 8, in Norton Sound Subdistricts 2, 3 and 4, the Golovin, Elim and Norton Bay Subdistricts, except Golovin Subdistrict will be closed to fishing Tuesday, July 5, Norton Bay Subdistrict will be closed to fishing, Wednesday, July 6 and Elim Subdistrict will be closed to fishing on Thursday, July 7.

Commercial fishing will be open for 10 hours, from 2 p.m. to 12 midnight, on Tuesday, July 5 in Norton Sound Subdistricts 5 and 6, the Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts.

For all subdistricts gillnets are limited to 6 inches or less and 100 fathoms in length.

Fishermen are encouraged to contact the buyer before fishing and during the fishing periods to make sure buying operations have not been suspended because of capacity concerns. The commercial catch of over 11,000 pinks during the last fishing period in Unalakleet outnumbered the chum catch by 13 to 1. The department is working with the buyer on setting fishing openings that work best for their capacity and quality concerns in each subdistrict.

Here are cumulative escapement counts in Norton Sound:

Unalakleet River: 220 kings, 12,000 chums, 560,000 pinks
North River: 115 kings, 3,000 chums, 76,000 pinks
Shaktoolik River: 220 kings, 7,000 chums, 150,000 pinks
Inglutalik River: 2,200 kings, 16,000 chums, 1,400 pinks
Kwiniuk River: 69 kings, 5,000 chums, 85,000 pinks
Fish River: 600 kings, 36,000 chums, 61,000 pinks
Eldorado River: 1 king, 5,200 chums, 300 pinks
Pilgrim River: 1 king, 1,400 chums, 60 pinks, 2,500 sockeyes
Nome River: 150 chums, 1,000 pinks, 3 sockeyes
Snake River: 100 chums, 20 pinks

Happy 4th of July.