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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



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UNALAKLEET SUBSISTENCE SALMON GILLNET FISHING PERIOD

The next marine water subsistence set gillnet fishing period in the Unalakleet Subdistrict will be a 24-hour period from 8 a.m. Wednesday, July 6 until 8 a.m. Thursday, July 7. This fishing period will have no mesh size restrictions. Gillnet length is limited to 50 fathoms.

Pink salmon have been passing through the Unalakleet River weir in record numbers with over 100,000 fish passing daily for the last four days. So far 220 kings have passed through the weir and this is the highest number by this date in the seven years of counting, but counts have slowed in recent days. The average historical midpoint of king salmon past the weir is July 12. At North River counting tower 117 king salmon have passed, but king salmon passage has also slowed. The average historical midpoint of king salmon past the tower is July 15. At the Shaktoolik River counting tower 258 king salmon have passed and the king salmon counts are similar to last year.

Here are the latest cumulative escapement counts in Norton Sound:

Unalakleet River: 220 kings, 13,000 chums, 660,000 pinks North River: 117 kings, 3,300 chums, 87,000 pinks Shaktoolik River: 258 kings, 8,000 chums, 170,000 pinks Inglutalik River: 2,300 kings, 17,000 chums, 1,800 pinks Kwiniuk River: 87 kings, 5,700 chums, 103,000 pinks Fish River: 642 kings, 38,000 chums, 73,000 pinks Eldorado River: 1 king, 5,600 chums, 300 pinks Pilgrim River: 1 king, 1,500 chums, 65 pinks, 2,600 sockeyes Nome River: 185 chums, 1,100 pinks, 3 sockeyes Snake River: 100 chums, 20 pinks Solomon River: 14 chums