

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



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SOUTHERN NORTON SOUND SUBSISTENCE SALMON OPENING

As discussed at village meetings earlier this season there will one 36-hour subsistence salmon fishing period each week in the marine waters of Shaktoolik and Unalakleet during favorable weather conditions.

The marine waters of Norton Sound Subdistricts 5 and 6, the Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts will have a 36-hour fishing period from noon Tuesday, June 13 to midnight Wednesday evening, June 14. This period applies only to the marine waters from Cape Denbigh south to Black Point and set gillnets are restricted to a mesh size of 6 inches or smaller.

The Unalakleet River floating weir was fish tight the evening of June 8. The first salmon counted through the weir were 5 chum salmon on June 10. On June 11, there were 5 chum and 1 king salmon counted.

The weir is cooperative project of Fish & Game, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, Native Village of Unalakleet and BLM with major funding provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Office of Subsistence Management. In the eight year project history this is the earliest in the season the weir has been operational.

This week, the North River tower operated by NSEDC is scheduled to become operational also. The department thanks NSEDC for their support of nearly two decades operating and providing financial support for escapement projects throughout Norton Sound.