

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



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Nome, AK, 99762
Date Issued: August 10, 2017
Time: 12:00 p.m.

NOME SUBDISTRICT OPENS FOR COMMERCIAL SILVER FISHING

The Solomon River weir and Nome River weir silver salmon passage has been triple the historical average. Historically the average midpoint of the silver salmon passage at Nome River weir has been September 1, but has been as early as August 25 in some years. At Snake River the silver passage has been average. Silvers often move upriver when river levels rise and with heavy rain forecast for Friday and Saturday there should be another silver push through the weirs this weekend.

The Nome Subdistrict will open to commercial salmon fishing for 48 hours from 9:00 p.m. Friday until 9 p.m. Sunday.

Elsewhere the Pilgrim River weir count has been averaging over 400 sockeyes daily since Sunday and the cumulative escapement is 54,500 sockeyes and ranks third highest in the 15-year project history and will likely finish second highest. The 2004 escapement was 85,000 sockeyes and the 2005 escapement was 56,000 sockeyes.

Here are the cumulative silver escapement counts in Norton Sound:

Unalakleet River: 18,000 silvers
Shaktoolik River: 5,000 silvers
Kwiniuk River: 3,000 silvers
Fish River: 6,500 silvers
Solomon River: 170 silvers
Nome River: 500 silvers
Snake River: 45 silvers
Pilgrim River: 100 silvers