

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



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Date Issued: Sept. 7, 2017
Time: 11:00 a.m.

NORTON SOUND COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENINGS

Commercial salmon fishing will open for two fishing periods the second week of September in Norton Sound Subdistricts 1, 3, 5 and 6, the Nome, Elim, Shaktoolik and Unalakeet Subdistricts.

In Subdistricts 3, 5 and 6 commercial salmon fishing will be open from 6 p.m. Friday, September 8 until 6 p.m. Monday, September 11 and from 6 p.m. Tuesday, September 12 until 6 p.m. Friday, September 15. In Subdistrict 1 commercial salmon fishing will be open the same days, but the fishing periods will start and end at 8 p.m.

Nome, Elim, Shaktoolik and Unalakeet Subdistricts have had record silver harvests this year with Nome fishermen harvesting 5,000 silvers, Elim fishermen harvesting 18,000 silvers, Shaktoolik fishermen harvesting 50,000 silvers and Unalakeet fishermen harvesting 106,000 silvers. The 2017 Norton Sound harvest of 183,000 silvers is a record surpassing the 154,000 silvers harvested during the 2015 season.

Escapement counting projects are operational in Nome, Elim, and Shaktoolik Subdistricts and have had well above average counts of silvers this season. The North River counting tower became fully operational again in early September and counts there have been above average for the first week of September.

Here are the cumulative silver escapement counts in Norton Sound:

North River: 2,000 silvers
Shaktoolik River: 13,000 silvers
Kwiniuk River: 12,000 silvers
Nome River: 3,000 silvers
Snake River: 2,000 silvers