

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

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COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN IN ELIM AND NORTON BAY

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 12 hours from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 22 in Subdistricts 3 and 4, the Elim and Norton Bay Subdistricts. Permit holders are limited to 100 fathoms of gillnet in aggregate length and gillnets must have a mesh size of 4 ½ inches or smaller.

The 12-hour fishing period with gillnet mesh size 4 ½ inches or smaller is to target the more abundant pink salmon.

Permit holders must be in possession of a 2020 Norton Sound commercial salmon permit and a government issued i.d. card or driver's license. All crewmembers must have a 2020 commercial crewmember's license or a 2020 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit. For example, a 2020 Norton Sound commercial crab permit card can substitute for a crewmember's license.

Here are the cumulative escapement counts:

North River: 700 kings, 700 chums, 520,000 pinks, 45 sockeyes
Shaktoolik River: 800 kings, 6,000 chums, 1.6 million pinks, 30 sockeyes, 21 silvers
Ungalik River: 140 kings, 6,600 chums, 620,000 pinks, 220 sockeyes, 60 silvers
Kwiniuk River: 400 kings, 4,300 chums, 1.2 million pinks, 78 sockeyes
Fish River: 12 kings, 5,000 chums, 1.4 million pinks, 54 sockeyes. No counting has occurred since July 15.
Solomon River: 240 chums, 200,000 pinks, 21 sockeyes, 11 silvers
Bonanza River: 15 kings, 1,600 chums, 150,000 pinks, 2 sockeyes
Eldorado River: 19 kings, 7,600 chums, 110,000 pinks, 26 sockeyes, 5 silvers
Nome River: 5 kings, 800 chums, 900,000 pinks, 120 sockeyes, 21 silvers
Snake River: 220 chums, 140,000 pinks, 58 sockeyes
Pilgrim River: 25 kings, 1,500 chums, 7,200 pinks, 4,900 sockeyes

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>