

**Division of Commercial Fisheries**  
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## **Advisory Announcement**

***For Immediate Release: July 17, 2021***

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### **PINK SALMON COMMERCIAL FISHING TO REOPEN IN NORTON SOUND**

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing will be open for 12 hours in Norton Sound Subdistricts 2 through 5, the Golovin, Elim and Norton Bay Subdistricts from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Sunday, July 18. Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 12 hours in Norton Sound Subdistrict 6, the Unalakleet Subdistrict from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. Monday, July 19. All gillnet fishing periods are pink salmon directed periods and nets are restricted to a mesh size of 4 ½ inches or smaller and 100 fathoms of net in aggregate length.

Commercial salmon fishing will open for 8 hours in Subdistrict 4, Norton Bay, from 8:00 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday, July 19, for experimental purse seining only. Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours from 8:00 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday, July 19 in Subdistrict 5, Shaktoolik, for beach seining and experimental purse seining only. Beach seines must be no more than 150 fathoms in length, 100 meshes in depth, and 4 inches or less mesh size and all king salmon must be returned immediately to the water alive. Purse seines must comply with stipulations outlined on the commissioner's permit and all king and chum salmon must be returned immediately to the water alive. Any king or chum salmon mortalities must be donated to local villages.

The pink salmon run has been building and although not as strong as recent record odd-numbered year runs the run is sufficient to allow for pink salmon commercial fishing in most subdistricts based on the buyer's capacity.

Permit holders are reminded to check with the buyers to make sure there is market for their catch.

### **COVID-19**

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, commercial fishing is considered essential 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 Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/>