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Advisory Announcement
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Norton Sound Advisory Announcement #14

SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING IN SUBDISTRICTS 5 & 6

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Nome for subsistence salmon fishing in Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts, Subdistricts 5 and 6.

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 5 and 6:

- Effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, August 4, all waters of Subdistricts 5 and 6 will open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, to gillnet gear with mesh size restricted to 6 inches, or less.

As Previously Announced:

- Beach seines are allowed in the fresh waters of Subdistricts of 5 and 6 with the non-retention of king salmon. Any king salmon caught in beach seining operations must be returned immediately to the water unharmed.

All escapement monitoring projects in southern Norton Sound are currently inoperable but escapement has been weak for king and chum salmon, which will likely not meet escapement objectives. Historically the bulk of the king and chum returns have migrated through marine waters by this time and any harvest is not expected to greatly influence current escapements. Coho salmon abundance from eastern Norton Sound projects, prior to them becoming inoperable, subsistence reports, and the most recent catch rates from commercial fisheries indicate that there is a surplus of coho salmon available for harvest and opening both marine and fresh waters to subsistence gillnets will allow for additional subsistence opportunity.

For any questions regarding this Advisory Announcement please call Fish & Game in Nome at 907-443-5167 or 1-800-560-2271.