

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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SHAKTOOLIK AND UNALAKLEET COMMERCIAL SALMON OPENING

Commercial salmon fishing will open for 24 hours in Norton Sound Subdistricts 5 and 6, the Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts, from 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 5 until 6 p.m. Thursday, July 6. Permit holders are limited to 100 fathoms of net in aggregate length and gillnets must have a mesh size of 6 inches or less. King salmon can be retained for personal use, but cannot be sold.

Permit holders must be in possession of a 2017 Norton Sound commercial salmon permit and a government issued i.d. card or driver's license. All crewmembers must have a 2017 commercial crew member's license or a 2017 State of Alaska commercial fishing permit. For example, a 2017 Norton Sound commercial crab permit card can substitute for a crew member's license.

Cumulative counts at the Unalakleet River weir are 214 kings, 11,565 chums, 398 pinks, and 48 sockeyes. The king passage is the second highest and the chum passage is the second highest in the 8-year project history for the month of June. Cumulative counts at the North River tower are 75 kings, 2,776 chums, and 462 pinks. The king count is below average, but the chum count is the highest in the 22-year project history for the month of June. Cumulative counts at the Shaktoolik River tower are 411 kings, 8,385 chums, and 1,227 pinks. The king passage is the second highest and the chum passage is the highest in the 4-year project history for the month of June.