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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: July 5, 2022

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SOUTHERN NORTON SOUND SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHERY

Subsistence gillnet fishing is currently closed in Subdistricts 5 and 6. Subsistence fishing in marine waters of Subdistrict 6 (Unalakleet) and marine and fresh waters of Subdistrict 5 (Shaktoolik) will open for one 24-hour period from 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 6, until 10:00 a.m. Thursday, July 7. Gillnet mesh size is restricted to a maximum of 6-inch stretched mesh.

By Board of Fisheries regulation, the King Salmon Management Plan for Subdistricts 5 and 6, the Shaktoolik and Unalakleet Subdistricts, and the Unalakleet River is in effect and from July 1 through August 10 beach seining is allowed 7 days a week unless changed by emergency order. Salmon other than king salmon may be kept when beach seining in Subdistricts 5 and 6. All king salmon caught when beach seining must be returned immediately to water unharmed. Beach seines must have a mesh size of 4 ½ inches or smaller.

To date salmon escapements have been weak for both king and chum salmon. The department thanks NSEDC for operating salmon counting projects for over two decades and aiding with department counting projects in Norton Sound.

Here are the salmon escapement counts through Monday, July 4:

Eldorado River: 39 chums, 43 pinks

Inglutalkik River: 9 kings, 1,700 chums, 6,100 pinks Kwiniuk River: 9 kings, 3,200 chums, 43,600 pinks Niukluk River: 39 kings, 880 chums, 6,300 pinks, 108 reds

North River: 160 kings, 150 chums, 109,500 pinks

Pilgrim River: 35 reds, 10 pinks

Shaktoolik River: 740 kings, 850 chums, 364,800 pinks

Snake River: 11 chums, 660 pinks, 43 reds

Unalakleet River: 44 kings, 1,290 chums, 61,800 pinks, 42 reds

Ungalik River: 15 kings, 2,700 chums, 43,800 pinks