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SALMON COMMERCIAL FISHING TO REOPEN IN NORTON SOUND

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing will be open for 24 hours in Norton Sound Subdistricts 2, 3, and 4, the Golovin, Elim, and Norton Bay from 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 11, until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12. Nets will be restricted to 6-inch stretched mesh, or less, and 100 fathoms in aggregate.

Subdistricts 5 and 6 will open for 8 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday, July 11. This commercial fishing period is a pink salmon directed commercial period with gillnets restricted to 4 ½ inches, or smaller, mesh size and 100 fathoms of net in aggregate length. King salmon caught during the directed pink salmon fishery in Subdistricts 5 and 6 may be retained for personal use but may not be sold. Any king salmon retained for personal use by commercial fishermen must be recorded on the fish ticket.

Escapements for chum salmon in the Nuikluk and Kwiniuk River are projected to attain the escapement objectives for those systems at this time. Chum salmon escapement at projects in Subdistrict 4 indicate that chum salmon escapement is well ahead of this time last year and near historical escapements when commercial fisheries have occurred. The pink salmon run has been building and 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 buyer to make sure there is market for their catch.