

**FISHERIES UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 1-7, 2022.** Report #11  
Compiled by George Pappas - (907) 317-2165, [George\\_Pappas@fws.gov](mailto:George_Pappas@fws.gov) Office of  
Subsistence Management, USFWS.

The purpose of the weekly fisheries update is to provide the reader with an overall summary of the status of subsistence related fisheries throughout the state of Alaska. The target audience is the Federal Subsistence Board and its Staff Committee. The report was compiled with the assistance of the Federal in-season managers and OSM staff that provided weekly updated information by the close of business on Friday of the reporting week. My goal is to have the report sent by the close of business the following Monday. Web links have been included to provide additional information. You may obtain additional information on a fishery of particular interest by contacting the in-season manager, provided contacts, follow the provided web links, or contact me.

### **SOUTHEAST ALASKA**

#### **Sitka and Hoonah Area – Forest Service, Tongass National Forest**

Position vacant – No reports expected for remainder of season.

#### **Petersburg and Wrangell Area –Andrew Sanders, Forest Service, Tongass National Forest**

**Andrew Sanders, (907)772-3871 [andrew.sanders@usda.gov](mailto:andrew.sanders@usda.gov)**

No report submitted this week.

#### **Juneau and Yakutat – Forest Service, Tongass National Forest Jake Musslewhite, 907-789-6256 [jacob.g.musslewhite@usda.gov](mailto:jacob.g.musslewhite@usda.gov)**

No report submitted this week.

#### **Prince of Wales and Ketchikan District area – TBA, Forest Service, Tongass National Forest. (907) 826-1649**

USFS Weekly Summary Author position vacant - TBA. No reports expected this season or until alternate staffing arrangements are made.

### **Southeast Alaska Web Links**

*Tongass National Forest News Room* <http://www.fs.usda.gov/news/tongass/news-events>

*Federal Subsistence Fisheries Regulations for Southeastern Alaska Area*  
[http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regulation/fish\\_shell/upload/Southeast.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regulation/fish_shell/upload/Southeast.pdf)

*ADF&G Sport and Personal Use Fishing News Release and Emergency Order Link*  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR/index.cfm?ADFG=region.R1>

*ADF&G Commercial Fisheries News Release and Emergency Order Link*  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

*Weekly ADF&G Sport Fishing Reports for Southeast Alaska*  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/FishingReports/index.cfm?ADFG=R1.home>

*Statewide ADF&G Fish counts*  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/FishCounts/>

## **SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA**

### ***PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND – COPPER RIVER***

**Copper River, 7/31/2022 Update – Dave Sarafin, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve (WRST), (907) 822-7281, dave\_sarafin@nps.gov**

**No report submitted this week.**

Links:

ADFG Miles Lake daily sonar estimates

[http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareacopperriver.salmon\\_escapement](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareacopperriver.salmon_escapement)

NVE's Chinook Escapement Monitoring project in the Copper River

<http://eyak.fishscan.com/Summary/DailySummary.aspx>

ADFG Copper River Inseason Commercial Harvest Estimates

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyareacopperriver.harvestsummary>

ADFG Sport Fish Emergency Orders and News Releases

<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR/index.cfm?ADFG=main.home>

**PWS and Copper River Delta – Stormy Haught, Chugach National Forest, Cordova.**

**8 August 2022**

Forty Federal Subsistence fishing permits have been issued for freshwaters within the Chugach National Forest portion of the Prince William Sound area (FFPW01) to-date in 2022. Harvest statistics of this year's permit holders will not be known until reports are returned this winter. Most harvest under these permits takes place during the coho fishery in fresh waters of the Copper River Delta in August and September. Seventy-four permits were issued in 2021 and 28 were fished. Reported harvest was 459 Coho Salmon, 19 Sockeye Salmon and 4 Cutthroat Trout.

The new dip net fishery in the Lower Copper River Area (FFPW05) began on June 1, 2022. Sixty-nine permits have been issued so far. Most effort and harvest has taken place at 36-Mile of the Copper River Highway. Harvest must be reported with 48 hours, there has been no reported harvest since June 28th. Season total harvest to-date is 104 Sockeye and 3 King Salmon.

***COOK INLET AREA – Kenneth Gates, Senior Fish Biologist, Kenai Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office***

No report submitted this week.

Fish counts at some Alaska Department of Fish and Game-operated assessment projects are available on-line at  
<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/FishCounts/index.cfm?ADFG=main.home>

**Kodiak Island Area – Michael Brady, Refuge Manager, - Kodiak NWR**  
 (907) 487-2600/0230 [michael\\_brady@fws.gov](mailto:michael_brady@fws.gov) or  
 Kevin Van Hatten (907) 487-0230 [Kevin\\_VanHatten@fws.gov](mailto:Kevin_VanHatten@fws.gov)

No report for this week.

**FISHERIES UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 7, 2022.**

***BRISTOL BAY, CHIGNIK, ALASKA PENINSULA, and ALEUTIAN ISLANDS –  
 Jonathon Gerken Fisheries Branch Chief Anchorage Fish and Wildlife Field Office***

These areas support abundant returns of salmon, particularly Sockeye Salmon; as well as some of the largest commercial fisheries for salmon in Alaska. All of the assessments of salmon returns are conducted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG), and

provide the basis for any inseason assessment and management. None of the adjustments in commercial fishing management throughout any of these areas are anticipated to affect subsistence fishing in waters under Federal subsistence fisheries jurisdiction.

#### Bristol Bay:

Current counts for Sockeye Salmon at installed escapement projects for August 7 (\*\*note many escapement projects have closed operation for the season): All systems have met escapement goals except the Nushagak Chinook Salmon.

Alagnak = 1,668,222 \*\*

Egegik = 1,784,152 \*\*

Igushik = 378,768 \*\*

Kvichak = 4,224,882\*\*

Naknek = 1,921,296 \*\*

Nushagak = 3,457,752; Chinook = 44,433\*\*

Togiak = 242,412

Ugashik = 1,436,784 \*\*

Wood River = 3,747,612 \*\*

The Sockeye Salmon sustainable escapement goals (SEG) for Bristol Bay systems are:

#### Escapement Goals:

Kvichak SEG = 2,000,000 – 10,000,000

Alagnak SEG = 320,000 minimum

Naknek SEG = 800,000 – 2,000,000

Egegik SEG = 800,000 – 2,000,000

Ugashik SEG = 500,000 – 1,400,000

Wood River SEG = 700,000 – 1,800,000

Igushik SEG = 150,000 – 400,000

Nushagak SEG = 370,000 – 900,000

Nushagak SEG = 55,000 – 270,000; Chinook Salmon = 55,000 – 120,000

Togiak SEG = 120,000 – 270,000

#### Chignik:

The Chignik River cumulative weir count as of August 7 is 703,686 Sockeye Salmon. Early run Sockeye Salmon account for 424,480 fish and late run Sockeye Salmon account for 279,206 fish. Both runs have met the escapement goals.

Approximately 712 Chinook Salmon have been counted at the ADFG weir as of August 7. The current projected total escapement is below the lower end of the escapement goal of 1,300 fish. As such an Emergency Special Action (8-KS-01-22) was issued on July 13 through August 30, closing fishing for Chinook Salmon in the Federal public waters of the Chignik River drainage due to concerns about the viability of the population. The ADFG implemented restrictions to sport and subsistence fisheries concurrently, State and Federal restrictions remain in effect.

Escapement Goals:

Early Run Sockeye Salmon/ Black Lake	BEG = 350,000 – 450,000
Late Run Sockeye Salmon/ Chignik Lake	SEG = 200,000 – 400,000
-In-river Goal	-10,000 in August and 10,000 in September in addition to minimum escapement objectives
Chinook Salmon	BEG = 1,300 – 2,700
Pink Salmon – Even year	SEG = 170,000 – 280,000
Chum Salmon	SEG = 45,000 – 110,000

Alaska Peninsula:

Preseason forecasts are made only for the Nelson River and late-run (post July 31) Bear Lake stocks.

Current counts for Sockeye Salmon at installed escapement projects for August 8 (\*\*note many escapement projects have closed operation for the season):

- Nelson = 82,543; Chinook = 2,786
- Bear = 421,160 (53,088 post July 31)
- Ilnik = 93,959; Chinook = 10 \*\*
- Orzinski = 15,283 \*\*
- Sandy = 42,036 \*\*
- McLees = 14,015 \*\*

Escapement Goals:

Nelson River	BEG = 97,000 – 219,000
Late-run Bear Lake	BEG = 117,000 – 195,000

Aleutian Islands.

All fisheries are forecast to meet escapement goals and provide harvest opportunity.

**Yukon River –USFWS Fairbanks Office. August 2-August 8, 2022**

Federal Manager, Holly Carroll (907) 351-3029, [holly\\_carroll@fws.gov](mailto:holly_carroll@fws.gov)

**Assessment Information**

As of August 7, at Pilot station sonar, approximately 45,000 Chinook Salmon have passed the sonar compared to a historical average for this time of about 152,600 fish and the run is considered nearly complete in the lower river. Eagle Sonar passage is exceptionally low at 10,918 fish compared to a historical average of approximately 51,000 fish for this date. So far this is the lowest Chinook run on record for the Yukon River. As of July 18, the final day of assessing summer chum at Pilot Station sonar, approximately 437,000 summer Chum Salmon passed the sonar. This run is well below the bottom end of the drainage-wide escapement goal of 500,000-1.2 million.

As of August 7, the cumulative fall Chum salmon passage at Pilot Station sonar is approximately 101,600 which is below the median for this date of approximately 270,000. As of August 7, genetic estimates of fall Chum salmon at Pilot Station sonar indicate the current cumulative passage of fall Chum salmon is approximately 26,000 which is much lower than the median of approximately 179,000 fall chum salmon for this date. Therefore, the projected fall Chum run is unlikely to be large enough to meet the minimum escapement goal of 300,000 fish needed to allow harvest. So far at the Pilot Station sonar, 1,652 Coho salmon have been counted, compared to a cumulative median passage of approximately 5,500 for this date. Coho typically enter the Yukon during the second half of the fall season and managers expect Coho passage to increase in the coming week.

Assessment and management updates will be given on the **YR DFA weekly teleconferences each Tuesday at 1:00 pm at the following number: 1-800-315-6338, Passcode: 98566#**. To hear the fishing schedule and fish counts please call the toll-free Fishing Schedule and Fish Counts hotline: 866-479-7387.

### **Management Actions**

Under the Delegated letter of Authority, and in consultation with Regional Advisory Council chairs and Office of Subsistence management staff, the Federal In-season Manager began issuing emergency special actions to close salmon fishing in each district, starting on June 2, and moving the closures upriver based on salmon migration timing.

As we transition to management for fall season (fall chum and coho salmon), emergency special actions are being announced to keep fishing closed for fall chum, and to allow harvest of coho salmon for federally qualified subsistence users in Federal public waters. Chinook and summer chum continue to pass through the river, so closures to summer chum and Chinook salmon fishing continue to be in place throughout the drainage.

Fishing for non-salmon species with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets is allowed under State and Federal regulations during salmon fishing closures; however, net length is restricted to a maximum of 60 feet. If a Chinook or Chum salmon is caught in 4-inch mesh gillnets, it should be released alive if possible, or if dead, may be kept. If fishermen are encountering salmon in a particular area, they should move their net and avoid areas where salmon are running. Other non-salmon gear types, including manned fish wheels, dip net, hook and line, longline, jigging gear, hand line, beach seine, fyke net, spear, or lead may be used but all Chinook and summer and fall Chum salmon caught must be released alive from these gears. Coho salmon, Pink Salmon or Sockeye Salmon may be retained in these gears if caught.

Subsistence salmon fishing has been closed in Federal public waters by Emergency Special Action in the following Districts and Subdistricts:

Summer Season:

- Coastal District and District 1, June 2 ([2-KS-01-22](#))
- District 2, June 4 ([2-KS-01-22](#))
- District 3, June 7 ([2-KS-02-22](#))
- Subdistrict 4-A Lower, June 12 ([2-KS-03-22](#))
- Subdistrict 4-A Upper, June 15 ([2-KS-03-22](#))

- Subdistricts 4-B/C, June 17 ([2-KS-04-22](#))
- Innoko River, June 17 ([2-KS-05-22](#))
- Subdistricts 5-A/B/C, June 21 ([2-KS-06-22](#))
- Koyukuk River, June 25 ([2-KS-07-22](#))
- Subdistrict 5-D Lower, June 25 ([2-KS-08-22](#))
- Subdistrict 5-D Middle, June 28 ([2-KS-08-22](#))
- Subdistrict 5-D Upper, June 30 ([2-KS-08-22](#))
- Subdistrict 6A, June 23 ([2-KS-09-22](#))
- Upper Tanana River June 28 ([2-KS-09-22](#))

Fall Season:

- Coastal District and District 1, July 16 ([2-FC-01-22](#))
- District 2, July 19 ([2-FC-01-22](#))
- District 3, July 21 ([2-FC-01-22](#))
- District 4 and the Koyukuk River, July 28 ([2-FC-02-22](#))
- Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B and 5-C, August 5 ([2-FC-03-22](#))
- Subdistrict 5-D Lower, August 9, Subdistrict 5-D Middle, August 17, and Subdistrict 5-D Upper, August 26 ([2-FC-04-22](#))

These management actions were taken in consultation with Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). State-managed waters in these areas have been closed concurrently by ADF&G.

For detailed information on management actions and weekly assessment updates, subscribe to ADF&G advisory announcements at <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.search> For daily counts and State Advisory announcements like the ADF&G Yukon River Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG/](http://www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG/)

Recent Fishery special actions are posted here:

[Fisheries Special Actions | U.S. Department of the Interior \(doi.gov\)](#)

If you'd like to receive emails and notifications on the Federal Subsistence Management Program you may subscribe for regular updates by emailing [fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov](mailto:fws-fsb-subsistence-request@lists.fws.gov)

For Federal News Releases and Emergency Special actions, like: [www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska](http://www.facebook.com/subsistencealaska).

**In Season Manager – Boyd Blihovde, Refuge Manager, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Contact [Boyd\\_Blihovde@fws.gov](mailto:Boyd_Blihovde@fws.gov); (907) 543-3151 or [aaron\\_moses@fws.gov](mailto:aaron_moses@fws.gov)**

No report forwarded for this period.

### **Yukon-Kuskokwim-Interior Alaska Web Links**

***Federal Subsistence Management Fisheries News Releases:***

<http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/news/fishing/index.cfm>

***Federal Subsistence Fisheries Regulations for Yukon–Northern Area***

[http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regulation/fish\\_shell/upload/Yukon.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regulation/fish_shell/upload/Yukon.pdf)

***NEW = Kuskokwim River Updates Hosted on OSM Website***

<http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/kuskokwim.cfm>

***Federal Subsistence Fisheries Regulations for Kuskokwim Area***

[http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regulation/fish\\_shell/upload/Kusko.pdf](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/regulation/fish_shell/upload/Kusko.pdf)

***ADF&G Sport and Personal Use Fishing News Release and Emergency Order link:***

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/EONR/index.cfm?ADFG=region.R3>

***ADF&G Commercial Fisheries News Release and Emergency Order Link:***

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

***Weekly ADF&G Sport Fishing Reports for Interior Alaska:***

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/FishingReports/index.cfm?ADFG=R3.home>

***Statewide ADF&G Fish counts:***

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/FishCounts/>

**Northwest Alaska – Ken Adkisson, National Park Service, Nome.**

(907) 443-6104 [Ken\\_Adkisson@nps.gov](mailto:Ken_Adkisson@nps.gov)

### **Norton Sound District**

#### **Salmon Overview:**

chum and pink runs are winding down. The chum salmon run was much stronger in northern Norton sound than in southern Norton sound. The commercial harvest to date is over double the departments forecast of 5000 to 10,000 chum salmon harvested in the commercial fishery. 4 of the 5 chum salmon escapement goals have been reached.

Although the pink salmon run was much stronger this year than last year the harvest this year will be less than one third of last year's harvest and well below department forecast of 250,000 to 1 million pinks salmon harvested. All pink salmon goals were again easily reached. Most salmon counting projects have begun operating again after the crews were unable to count for several days in late July because of high water.

### Sport Fishing:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game closed fresh waters from Bald Head to Point Romanof to sport fishing for king salmon effective 12:01 a.m. June 23, 2022. This closure includes, but is not limited to, the Unalakleet, Shaktoolik, Koyuk, Ungalik, Inglutalik, and Golovin River drainages. In addition, only one unbaited, single-hook, artificial lure may be used in these drainages. These temporary regulations will remain in effect through August 15, 2022, or until there are indications of a harvestable surplus above escapement objectives. Escapements are indexed by a counting tower on the North River, a tributary of the Unalakleet River, and a floating weir which is located on the mainstem Unalakleet River.

### **St. Michael and Stebbins**

#### Subsistence Fishing:

Subsistence fishing is open 7 days per week in southern Norton Sound from Pt. Romanof to Black Point. Regulation does allow for the restriction of gillnet mesh size in the subsistence fisheries throughout Norton Sound if it is necessary to conserve Chinook salmon.

#### ***Subdistrict 6 (Unalakleet)***

#### Federal Regulation:

Federal public waters of the Unalakleet River, upstream from the mouth of the Chirosky River, are closed to the taking of Chinook Salmon from July 1–to July 31, by all users. The BLM field manager is authorized to open the closed area to Federally qualified subsistence users or to all users when run strength warrants.

#### Subsistence Fishing:

Net fishing is open 7 days a week. When beach seining, king salmon must be immediately released unharmed in the water.

#### Commercial Fishing:

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing opened for two 48-hour periods in the subdistrict from 6:0 p.m. Saturday, August 6, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 8, and from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 10, until 6:00 p.m. Friday, August 12. King salmon may not be sold but can be retained for personal use and must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of delivery. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate.

The Unalakleet subdistrict commercial fishing: harvest is 145 sockeyes, 1700 chums, 44,000 pinks and 115 silver salmon by 20 permit holders.

**Unalakleet River Floating Weir** - No escapement goals yet established. A cooperative project of Fish & Game, BLM and NSEDC; major funding provided by USFWS, Office of Subsistence Management. The cumulative counts through July 25 were 95 kings, 322 sockeyes, 6,600 chums and 28 silvers. Counting resumed on August 1 after being unable to count because of high water for 6 days.

**North River Tower Camp J. B.** - Escapement goals: king 1,200 to 2,600, chum no goal established, pink 25,000, silver 550-1,100 (aerial survey goal), A NSEDC project. The cumulative counts through July 25 were 1,119 kings, 66 sockeyes, 1,100 chums, 687,000 pinks and 93 silvers. The crew may be able to resume counting later this week

### ***Subdistrict 5 (Shaktoolik)***

#### Subsistence Fishing:

Net fishing is open 7 days a week. When beach seining, king salmon must be immediately released unharmed in the water.

#### Commercial Fishing:

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing opened for two 48-hour periods in the Subdistrict from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 6, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 8, and from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 10, until 6:00 p.m. Friday, August 12. King salmon may not be sold but can be retained for personal use and must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of delivery. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate.

The Commercial fishing harvest is 340 sockeyes, 5,600 chums, 13,000 pinks and 122 silver salmon by 12 permit holders.

**Shaktoolik Tower** – No escapement goals yet established, A NSEDC project. The crew has been unable to count because of high and murky water. Cumulative counts through July 22 were 975 kings, 159 sockeyes, 13,329 chums and 1.4 million pinks. The crew may be able to resume counting later this week.

### ***Subdistrict 4 (Norton Bay)***

#### Subsistence Fishing:

Net fishing is open 7 days a week.

#### Commercial Fishing:

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing opened for 48 hours in the Subdistrict from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3, until 6 p.m. Friday, August 5. In Nome Subdistrict fishing will be open from 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3 until 9:00 pm. Friday, August 5. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate length for all fishing locations. The previous 48-hour fishing period had above average chum salmon catches for this late in the chum salmon run and silver salmon catches were below average for early August. Escapement goals for chum salmon have been reached in four of five rivers in northern Norton Sound and the goal in the fifth river is projected to be reached. All northern Norton Sound salmon escapement counting projects are again operational after being knocked out by high water. The department thanks Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation for over two decades of operating and supporting numerous salmon counting projects throughout Norton Sound. Silvers are slowly building in Norton Sound rivers and when the silver salmon catch exceeds the chum salmon catch the department will shift to silver salmon management in the commercial fishery.

The commercial fishing: The commercial harvest is 1 king, 35 sockeyes, 3,300 chums, 3,000 pink and 12 silvers salmon by 6 permit holders.

**Inglutalik River Tower** - no escapement goals yet established. A NSEDC project. The cumulative counts through July 31 were 177 kings, 5,900 chums, 35,000 pinks and 3 silvers. Crews resumed counting on July 31 after being unable to count because of high water for 6 days.

**Ungalik River Tower** - no escapement goals established yet. A NSEDC project.

The cumulative counts through July 31 were 747 kings, 33 sockeyes, 17,000 chums, 567,000 pinks and 1,500 silvers. The crew resumed counting on July 30 after being unable to count because of high water for 6 days.

### ***Subdistrict 3 (Elim)***

#### Subsistence Fishing:

Net fishing is open 7 days a week.

#### Commercial Fishing:

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing opened for 48 hours in the Subdistrict from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3, until 6 p.m. Friday, August 5. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate length for all fishing locations. The previous 48-hour fishing period had above average chum salmon catches for this late in the chum salmon run and silver salmon catches were below average for early August. Escapement goals for chum salmon have been reached in four of five rivers in northern Norton Sound and the goal in the fifth river is projected to be reached. All northern

Norton Sound salmon escapement counting projects are again operational after being knocked out by high water. The department thanks Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation for over two decades of operating and supporting numerous salmon counting projects throughout Norton Sound. Silvers are slowly building in Norton Sound rivers and when the silver salmon catch exceeds the chum salmon catch the department will shift to silver salmon management in the commercial fishery.

The commercial harvest is 2 kings, 85 sockeyes, 3,300 chum, 2,600 pinks and 100 silvers by 10 permit holders.

**Kwiniuk River Tower-Camp Joel** - escapement goals: king 250, chum 9,100-32,600, pink 8,400, silver 650-1,300 (aerial survey goal). Fish and Game project.

The cumulative counts through August 1 were 10 kings, 15 sockeyes, 9,400 chum, 400,000 pinks and 15 silvers. Crew resume counting on July 31 after being unable to count because of high water for 10 days.

### ***Subdistrict 2 (Golovin)***

#### Subsistence Fishing:

Net fishing is open 7 days a week.

#### Commercial Fishing:

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing opened for 48 hours in the Subdistrict from 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3, until 6 p.m. Friday, August 5. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate length for all fishing locations. The previous 48-hour fishing period had above average chum salmon catches for this late in the chum salmon run and silver salmon catches were below average for early August. Escapement goals for chum salmon have been reached in four of five rivers in northern Norton Sound and the goal in the fifth river is projected to be reached. All northern Norton Sound salmon escapement counting projects are again operational after being knocked out by high water. The department thanks Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation for over two decades of operating and supporting numerous salmon counting projects throughout Norton Sound. Silvers are slowly building in Norton Sound rivers and when the silver salmon catch exceeds the chum salmon catch the department will shift to silver salmon management in the commercial fishery.

The commercial fishing: harvest is 150 sockeyes, 8,600 chums, 1,600 pink and 50 silver salmon by 10 permit holders.

**Niukluk River Tower**-escapement goals: chum 23,000, silver 750-600 (aerial survey goal includes Ophir Creek)-NS DC project. The cumulative counts through August 1

were 42 kings, 895 sockeyes and 15 silvers. The crew resumed counting on July 29 after being unable to count because of high water for 5 days.

### ***Subdistrict 1 (Nome)***

#### Subsistence Fishing:

The subsistence net fishing schedule in all freshwater subsistence areas and the marine waters west of Cape Nome is from 6 PM Wednesday until 6 PM Monday. East of Cape Nome the marine waters are open 7 days a week. There are no catch limits when fishing in marine waters. Check the subsistence salmon permits for the freshwater catch limits vary by river. Beach seines, cast nets, dip nets and set gillnets can be used during the net fishing schedules. But only in the subsistence areas.

#### Commercial Fishing:

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing will be open for 48 hours in the Subdistrict from 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 3 until 9:00 pm. Friday, August 5. Nets are restricted to 6-inch mesh size, or smaller, and 100 fathoms in aggregate length for all fishing locations. The previous 48-hour fishing period had above average chum salmon catches for this late in the chum salmon run and silver salmon catches were below average for early August. Escapement goals for chum salmon have been reached in four of five rivers in northern Norton Sound and the goal in the fifth river is projected to be reached. All northern Norton Sound salmon escapement counting projects are again operational after being knocked out by high water. The department thanks Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation for over two decades of operating and supporting numerous salmon counting projects throughout Norton Sound. Silvers are slowly building in Norton Sound rivers and when the silver salmon catch exceeds the chum salmon catch the department will shift to silver salmon management in the commercial fishery.

The commercial fishing: harvest is 13 sockeyes, 544 chums, 25 pinks and to silver salmon by 3 permit holders.

**Eldorado River Weir** -escapement goals-chum 4,400-14,200. A NSEDC project. Cumulative counts through July 25 were 5 kings, 16 sockeyes, 7,430 chums and 39,000 pinks. The project is complete.

**Nome River Weir** - escapement goals: chum 1,600 – 5,300, pink 13,000. A Fish and Game project. The cumulative counts through August 1 were 3 kings, 10 sockeyes, 1,040 chums, 43,000 pinks and 62 silvers. The weir was out for 2 1/2 days and counting resumed on July 27,

**Snake River Weir** - escapement goal: chum 2,000-4,200. A NSEDC project. The cumulative counts through August 1 were 3 kings, 250 sockeyes, 2,900 chums, 39,000 pinks, and 6 silvers. The weir was out for 1-1/2 days and counting resumed on July 27.

**Solomon River Weir**-no escapement goals yet established-Fish and Game project.

The Cumulative counts through August 1 were 134 chums, 6,000 pinks, and 23 silvers. The weir counting started near the midpoint of the chum and pink run and was recently out for 3 1/2 days, and accounting resumed on July 28.

**Port Clarence District**

All net fishing is closed in the lower Kuzitrin River from 300 yards upriver of the confluence with the Pilgrim River to the Kuzitrin River mouth and the entire Pilgrim River and its tributaries until further notice. Salmon Lake is closed to all salmon fishing.

Elsewhere subsistence fishing is open 7 days a week.

Pilgrim River floating Weir-escapement goal: sockeye 6802 36,000-NSEDC project.

The cumulative counts through August 1 were 30 kings, 1,200 sockeyes, 1,800 chums, 5,000 pinks and 2 silvers. High water preventing counting for 3 days and counting resumed on July 29. Sockeye counts continue to be poor even though all net fishing has been closed since July 8. The only years with lower sockeye passage are the crash years of 2000 and 2016. The historical average third-quarter point of sockeye passage at the weir is July 29.

**Kotzebue District****Subsistence Fishing:**

No subsistence fishing restrictions are expected in 2022.

**Commercial Fishing:**

Commercial salmon fishing opened for 8 hours from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 4 and Friday, August 5 in the Kotzebue Sound District. Because of buyer capacity concerns, commercial fishing periods will be 8 hours on Thursday and Friday.

The Kotzebue catch is over 98,000 chums. With the peak week of fishing coming, the catch as tracking may go over the department forecast of 100,000 to 200,000 fish harvested. Weather had hampered the fleet getting out on the water, on 3 of the 6 days last week. But during the 3 days when the fleet was fishing the catch per unit of effort (CPUE) for each day was the highest since 2018. Catches only this week have continued upward. One of the three buyers expect to reach their season capacity and stop buying by Thursday.

**Kobuk River Test Fishery** – A Fish and Game project.

Catches have been very strong for sheefish and slow for chum salmon. The crew has been hampered getting on the water because of inclement weather and the river is extremely

high and debris laden. The department will use the commercial fishery CPUE in determining commercial fishing time.

<http://alaska.fws.gov/asm/pdf/fishregs11/norton.pdf>