

Division of Commercial Fisheries
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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 14, 2026

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Norton Sound Advisory Announcement #17

COMMERCIAL FISHING TO OPEN IN NORTON SOUND SUBDISTRICTS 2-6

Emergency Order: 3-S-Z-10-26

Commercial salmon gillnet fishing will open for one 48-hour period in Norton Sound Subdistricts 2–6, the Golovin, Elim, Norton Bay, Shaktoolik, and Unalakleet Subdistricts.

- **Golovin Subdistrict 2**
 - will open to commercial salmon fishing for one 48-hour period:
 - from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 17.
- **Elim Subdistrict 3**
 - will open to commercial salmon fishing for one 48-hour period:
 - from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 17.
- **Norton Bay Subdistrict 4**
 - will open to commercial salmon fishing for one 48-hour period:
 - from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 17.
- **Shaktoolik Subdistrict 5**
 - will open to commercial salmon fishing for one 48-hour period:
 - from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 17.
- **Unalakleet Subdistrict 6:**
 - will open to commercial salmon fishing for one 48-hour period:
 - from 6:00 p.m. Saturday, August 15, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 17.

All commercial fishing periods are directed to target chum and coho salmon with gillnet mesh size restricted to 6 inches or smaller.

The previous commercial periods in Subdistricts 2–6 had near average catch rates and salmon monitoring projects in the region are generally inoperable. Kwiniuk River tower is the exception and is operationally and coho salmon in this system is projected to meet the escapement goal and provide for subsistence needs with a harvestable surplus available for commercial fishing. This commercial period will continue to gauge coho salmon abundance in marine waters and maybe used to justify additional commercial periods targeting coho salmon.

Permit holders are reminded to ensure they have a market for their catch. This commercial fishing period does not affect current subsistence fisheries schedules, restrictions, or closures.

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