

2021 FISHERMEN'S MEETING SCHEDULE

***ALL MEETINGS BY TELECONFERENCE AT
1-800-315-6338 / CODE: 22491#***

Thursday, June 3

2:00 pm: Koyuk
4:00 pm: Golovin
6:00 pm: Nome

Friday, June 4

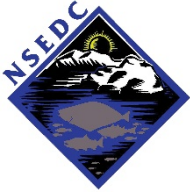
2:00 pm: Elim
4:00 pm: Shaktoolik
6:00 pm: Unalakleet



2021 FISHERMEN'S MEETING AGENDA

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1. Welcome & Introductions – Janis Ivanoff
2. Norton Sound Fishery Forecast – Wes Jones
3. COVID-19 Precautions/Community & Workforce Protection Plan
4. Red King Crab Fishery/NSED C Standdown – Justin Noffske
5. CDQ Update – Simon Kinneen
6. Halibut & Cod Fishery – Justin Noffske/Josh Osborne
7. Salmon Fishery – Justin Noffske/Frank Doty
 - a. NSED C Operations
 - b. Quality Measures
 - c. Icicle Seine Fishery
8. Tender Vessel Updates – Derek McLarty
9. Employment Opportunities – Justin Noffske / Tyler Rhodes
10. Fishermen Loan Programs – Virginia Nashalook
 - a. Fishermen's Receivables Loan Program
 - b. Revolving Loan Program
 - c. Large Vessel Loan Program



NSEDC & NSSP 2021 Operational Announcements



Notice issued May 28, 2021

As Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) and Norton Sound Seafood Products (NSSP) prepare for the 2021 fishing season, we would like to share the following information with fishers and community members on how we will operate this season, especially in respect to continued precautions we are taking in regard to COVID-19.

General Information

- **NSSP will not purchase Norton Sound red king crab this year, nor will we support commercial fishing efforts for red king crab.**
NSEDC has made the difficult decision to not participate in the summer 2021 Norton Sound red king crab commercial fishery. We strongly believe that a commercial fishery in 2021 will have long-term negative impacts to the health of the stock. NSSP will not be purchasing Norton Sound red king crab in 2021, nor supporting fishers who opt to commercially fish for crab as catcher-sellers or by selling to another buyer if any register for the fishery. This applies to (but is not limited to) access to loan programs for crab-related purposes, use of ice, crane and dock services, totes or other supplies.
- **Commercial salmon fishers will need to complete and submit an NSEDC Residency Verification Form each year before delivering to NSSP.**
NSEDC's residency policy was updated in 2020 in regard to residency requirements for delivering salmon to NSSP. To deliver, a fisher must be a current member community resident or a former resident who can show documented commercial salmon fishing history in the Norton Sound District, or received the permit through a non-compensated family transfer. Residency verification forms are attached to this memo and available from the community liaison, the local buying station or from NSEDC's plants and offices in Unalakleet and Nome. They can also be found at www.nsedc.com/applications.
- **NSEDC opposes the experimental purse seine pink salmon fishery conducted by Icicle Seafoods and will not provide support for fishers delivering to Icicle.**
NSEDC/NSSP will not provide loan support, including fishermen's receivable charging, for activity related to fishing for Icicle's pink salmon operations. This extends to the supplying of ice or other dockside services. Fishers who do deliver to Icicle, however, will still be permitted to deliver to NSSP and receive support for their fishing efforts related to NSSP deliveries.

- **Halibut fishery to proceed with community allocations and individual use caps as was done in 2020.**

NSEDC will be releasing its 2021 halibut and cod management plan which will outline specifics about these two fisheries. Both fisheries are expected to proceed along similar lines as in 2020, with separate halibut allocations for Nome and Savoonga, as well as individual use caps for Nome-based permit holders. Fishers delivering to Nome will be required to register for the fishery by mid-June in order to fish halibut. NSEDC has 66,420 pounds of CDQ halibut available and is working to potential secure more for harvest. More details will be provided in the management plan.

COVID-19-Related Information

- **NSEDC & NSSP will again restrict access to our facilities this year to employees only due to COVID-19 precautions.**

Fishers will be directed to a designated location for the processing of fish tickets. For other items, fishermen are asked to contact the buying station or one of our seafood plants by phone to make arrangements. Fishers and other non-employees will not be allowed inside facilities, vessels or other work areas where NSSP personnel will be working. This is to protect the health of fishers, our employees and the communities in which we operate.

- **All fishers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the CDC rule requiring masks to be worn on all commercial fishing vessels.**

The CDC has issued an order requiring that masks be worn on all commercial modes of travel, which has been interpreted to include all commercial fishing vessels, even salmon skiffs. As of the date of this memo, the policy is still in place for fishing vessels. The US Coast Guard (USCG) has issued a bulletin, which is attached, noting that it will enforce this requirement. The USCG has answers to frequently asked questions on the subject here: <https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Prevention-Policy-CG-5P/Inspections-Compliance-CG-5PC-/Commercial-Vessel-Compliance/CDC-Mask-Order-Frequently-Asked-Questions/>

- **NSEDC continues to follow our operational plan in regard to COVID-19.**

Our Community & Workforce Protection Plan can be found on the “Publications” page on our website, www.nsedc.com/publications. Highlights of the plan are: limited access to facilities, vaccination requirement for employees, daily health screening of employees, weekly COVID-19 testing for employees, and response plans if someone becomes ill.

- **Fishers traveling to other Norton Sound communities to fish need to ensure they abide by that community’s travel protocols and guidelines.**

If Norton Sound fishers plan to fish and deliver in communities outside of their hometown, they need to consult with the destination community to ensure they are aware of any travel or access restrictions. In 2021, commercial fishers do not need to file an operation plan (known as Appendix 2 in 2020) with NSEDC as was required last season by the state.

Nome-based Fisheries Information

- **Vessel launch and haul-out services will be affected by the Port of Nome ramp repair project.**

Nome-based fishers will need to ensure their vessels are launched prior to the barge ramp closing for repairs in July. The ramp repair is projected to take place from July 1 to mid-September. **Fishers will need to schedule any NSEDC-assisted vessel launching as early as possible, as NSEDC will not be able to accommodate the entire fleet if they wait until the last minute.** Vessel launches and haul-outs should be scheduled with Josh Osborne at 443-2304. NSEDC will only utilize its own trailer when providing launch services, and fishers must sign a waiver and release form each season for this service.

Vessel haul-outs will need to take place after the ramp repairs are completed and before freeze-up. Ideally, all boats should be dry-docked by October 1. NSEDC will issue an announcement at the season's end regarding deadlines to have vessels hauled out; any vessel not meeting that deadline will need to arrange for its own haul-out.

- **NSEDC Contacts:**

Location	Contact Name	Phone/Fax/Email
Nome Plant	Dena Okitkon, Office Manager	907-443-2304 (local) 855-443-2304 (toll-free) 907-443-2457 (fax) dena@nsedc.com
Unalakleet Plant	Sherilee Ivanoff, Office Manager	907-624-3014 (local) 855-232-3014 (toll-free) 907-624-3808 (fax) sherilee@nsedc.com
Golovin Liaison	Stephanie Sampson	glvliaison@nsedc.com
Golovin Buying Station	Dean Peterson	
Elim Liaison	Emily Murray	eliliaison@nsedc.com
Elim Buying Station	Steven Saccheus	
Koyuk Liaison	Beda Prentice	kkaliaison@nsedc.com
Koyuk Buying Station	Eric Nassuk	
Shaktoolik Liaison	To be announced	skkliaison@nsedc.com
Shaktoolik Buying Station	Brian Savetilik	
NSEDC Loan Program	Virginia Nashalook	800-650-2248 (toll-free) 907-274-2249 (fax) virginia@nsedc.com

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**Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation Norton
Sound Residency Verification Form**

Personal Information

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Communities in which you have lived in the past year: _____

This form is being submitted as part of the application for: _____

Residency Statements

I am submitting this form as proof that I qualify as a Norton Sound resident under NSEDC's Norton Sound Residency Policy. I understand that this means that I can answer **yes to all** of the following "Residency Statements" (1-4):

1. I have established residency by being physically present in the Norton Sound region for a one-year period, with an allowance of up to 60 cumulative days' absence during that year. I was physically present in the region at the start of this period.
2. I consider the Norton Sound region my home and intend to remain in here indefinitely.
3. I have not claimed residency outside of the Norton Sound region, or obtained a benefit as a result of a claim of residency in a community outside of the Norton Sound region, at any time in the previous year.
4. After satisfying Residency Statement 1, if I was physically absent from the Norton Sound region in subsequent years for more than 60 days, I was absent for an Allowable Absence. If claiming an Allowable Absence from the prior year, please list the absence here: _____

Salmon Deliveries: If form is being submitted for consideration of salmon deliveries, I am either 1) a current resident or 2) qualify by having previously established residency and have documented history of commercial salmon fishing in the Norton Sound district, or received my permit through a non-compensated family transfer. *(Please attach an explanation of when residency was previously held and evidence of prior commercial salmon fishing or non-compensated permit transfer if not a current resident.)*

Representations and Understandings

By signing this form, I am representing that I understand and agree with the following:

- All of the information provided on this form is true and accurate.
- NSEDC may request documentation to verify my responses in this form and I can provide such documentation upon request.
- Residency alone does not qualify me for participation or receipt of a benefit and I am aware that NSEDC may adopt exceptions or more stringent requirements for certain programs.
- If an Allowable Absence is claimed, then I have not been gone from the region for any other purpose for more than 45 days in the past year, and I have returned to the Norton Sound region following each period of allowable absence and otherwise acted consistently with an intention to remain a resident of the region.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR NSEDC INTERNAL USE ONLY – PLACE IN APPLICATION FILE WHEN COMPLETE	
DATE RECEIVED: _____	RECEIVED BY: _____
DATE APPROVED: _____	APPROVED BY: _____
FLAGGED FOR FURTHER REVIEW? NO YES:	



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

Commandant
U.S. Coast Guard
Inspections and Compliance Directorate
2703 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, STOP 7501

MSIB Number: 02-21 CH-1
Date: March 22, 2021
E-Mail: wearamask@uscg.mil
Washington, DC 20593-7501

COVID-19 Safety Requirements in the Maritime Transportation System: Change-1

The President issued Executive Order (13998), Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel requiring masks be worn on all “public maritime vessels, including ferries” to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a Federal order, [*Requirement for Persons to Wear Masks while on Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs, 29JAN2021 \(the Order\)*](#) requiring all persons travelling on all commercial vessels to wear a mask. Additionally, Executive Order 13998 directs the Coast Guard to implement public health measures consistent with CDC guidelines at sea ports (e.g., passenger terminals, cargo handling facilities, and other shoreside facilities that provide transportation of persons or cargo). Change-1 to this MSIB reflects the inclusion of sea ports, provides additional information on applicability for mask wear in the marine transportation system and includes links to Coast Guard and CDC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) pages.

Vessel and sea port operators are encouraged to monitor the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/> for the most up to date guidance. The CDC has published an updated list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) that can be found at [Public Transportation](#). The Coast Guard has also published additional guidance that can be found at the [FAQ](#) web page.

The Order requires conveyance operators and transportation hub operators to take steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Vessels (Conveyances): Vessel operators must use best efforts to ensure that any person on the conveyance wears a mask when boarding, disembarking, and for the duration of travel. Depending on the circumstances, best efforts include:

- boarding only those persons who wear masks;
- instructing persons that Federal law requires wearing a mask on the conveyance and failure to comply constitutes a violation of Federal law;
- monitoring persons on board the conveyance for anyone who is not wearing a mask and seeking compliance from such persons;
- at the earliest opportunity, disembarking any person who refuses to comply;
- providing persons with prominent and adequate notice to facilitate awareness and compliance of the requirement of this Order to wear a mask; best practices may include, if feasible, advanced notifications on digital platforms, such as on apps, websites, or email; posted signage in multiple languages with illustrations; printing the requirement on transit tickets; or other methods as appropriate.

Sea Ports (Maritime Transportation Hubs): Operators of sea ports must use best efforts to ensure that any person entering or on the premises of the port wears a mask. Best efforts include:

- allowing entry only to those persons who wear masks;

- instructing persons that Federal law requires wearing a mask in the transportation hub and failure to comply constitutes a violation of Federal law;
- monitoring persons on the premises of the transportation hub for anyone who is not wearing a mask and seeking compliance from such persons;
- at the earliest opportunity, removing any person who refuses to comply from the premises of the transportation hub; and
- providing persons with prominent and adequate notice to facilitate awareness and compliance with the requirement of this Order to wear a mask; best practices may include, if feasible, advance notifications on digital platforms, such as on apps, websites, or email; posted signage in multiple languages with illustrations; printing the requirement on transit tickets; or other methods as appropriate.

The CDC Mask Order exempts the following categories of persons:

- A child under the age of 2 year;
- A person with a disability who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, because of the disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.);
- A person for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations.

Vessel or facility operators, owners, or companies should provide clear guidance as to when wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace, health, safety or job duty for crew members and facility personnel. The company guidance should address specific tasks that cannot be accomplished safely while wearing a mask. A blanket policy cannot be issued to exempt all persons from wearing a mask at all times. Crew members and facility personnel may be exempt from wearing a mask only when actively performing the task and should immediately wear a mask when the task is complete. Since passengers should refrain from instances where wearing a mask may present a risk, this exemption does not extend to passengers.

The requirement to wear a mask shall not apply under the following circumstances:

- While eating, drinking, or taking medication, for brief periods;
- While communicating with a person who is hearing impaired when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- If, unconscious (for reasons other than sleeping), incapacitated, unable to be awakened, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance, experiencing difficulty breathing or shortness of breath or feeling winded may temporarily remove the mask until able to resume normal breathing with the mask. Vomiting or other illness, may also require removal of the mask. Other medical conditions and equipment may interfere with the ability to wear a mask;
- When necessary to temporarily remove the mask to verify one's identity such as during Transportation Security Administration screening or when asked to do so by a ticket or gate agent or any law enforcement official.

Under Title 42 of the United States Code section 268, the Coast Guard is charged with assisting in enforcement of CDC quarantine orders. Operators of vessels and sea ports that fail to implement appropriate public health measures, including the mask wearing order above, may be subject to civil or criminal penalties. Furthermore, based on the scientific determination of the CDC, the Coast Guard finds that failure to implement appropriate health measures creates an undue safety risk by increasing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 between passengers, the crew of the vessel, and port workers.

The Coast Guard has broad authority to control the movement and operations of a vessel based on a hazardous condition (see 33 CFR § 160.111). Vessels that have not implemented the mask requirement may be issued a

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Captain of the Port (COTP) order directing the vessel's movement and operations; repeated failure to impose the mask mandate could result in civil and/or criminal enforcement action. Additionally, after taking into account operational considerations, the COTP may issue orders prohibiting vessels from mooring at a sea port that fails to implement the CDC guidelines or refer non-compliance with CDC's guidelines for further civil or criminal enforcement action.

Persons that wish to report vessels or sea ports not operating in accordance with the Executive Order or CDC Order may email the Coast Guard at wearamask@uscg.mil. This shared email inbox is not monitored on a continuous basis. If there is an emergency, it should be reported through proper emergency channels to local authorities not this inbox.

State, local, Tribal, and territorial laws or rules imposing public health measures that are more protective of public health than, or equal to those required by the CDC are an acceptable equivalency for these requirements. Operators of vessels and sea ports who believe local mask wearing requirements fit this exemption should contact the local COTP.

Questions concerning this notice may be forwarded to Coast Guard Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance, at wearamask@uscg.mil.

Richard V. Timme, RDML, U. S. Coast Guard, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy sends