



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES.

For Release to the
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First reports of the season's salmon fishing operations in Alaska's distant Bristol Bay region, the world's chief production center for red salmon, indicate that the total pack in that area will exceed a million cases, the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries reported today.

Although the season got off to a late start, canning operations beginning June 30 instead of June 25 as authorized, by July 15 a total of 826,177 cases had been packed, of which 808,570 were red salmon. This production compares very favorably with the pack of 1,041,356 cases during the somewhat longer period from June 25 to July 17 of last year. The 1943 pack in Bristol Bay was the largest since 1938.

Salmon runs in Bristol Bay are at their peak this week, officials of the Coordinator's Office said, with the season in that area scheduled to close July 25. By this date the million case mark is expected to be passed.

The entire Alaska salmon industry is operating for the second consecutive season under a concentration plan designed to conserve equipment and manpower. In the Bristol Bay area 12 canneries are operating this year, compared with about 20 before the war. The concentration program, which is administered by the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries, was repeated this year at the request of the Alaska salmon industry.

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