

Greetings from the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association!

Here is a summary of the 9th Yukon River Salmon In-Season Management Teleconference held Tuesday, July 31, 2018. Call lasted 43 minutes.

Approximately 45 on the call

Background: Yukon River salmon management teleconferences are held annually on every Tuesday in June, July, and August for managers and fishers throughout the Yukon River drainage to discuss fishing conditions and management strategies in real time as the salmon run is occurring. Funded by the US Department of the Interior, Office of Subsistence Management.

Media participating: KZPA radio-Fort Yukon,

Communities participating this week:

Alaska Communities: Alakanuk, Alatna, Ruby, Rapids, Fort Yukon, Eagle, Tanana, Manley Hot Springs, Nenana

Yukon Territory Canada Communities: Mayo, Teslin, Whitehorse

Subsistence Reports:

Alatna: water high and rising. Most people were done harvesting King salmon. One family did really good, caught 26, rest are waiting on silvers and most folks are out berry picking.

Ruby: not much fishing, waiting for fall chum.

Tanana: fishing was good at the bridge, water dropping.

Rapids: River low and steady. Few fishing now as numbers of King are low and quality is much poorer. Very little Ichthyophonus disease but the most of the season now. Flesh color is white and lacking oil on increasing numbers. Numbers of unwanted poor quality summer chum also contributing to fishermen stopping fishing. This is all completely normal for this part of run. Some people say they will fish however as they didn't get their food for winter yet or not being able to fish fall chum. More fall type chum arriving but still small numbers and too many summer chum with them last opening. Some may put gear in this opening to check if summers are dropping off enough to fish the fall chum. Most seem to have met household needs this King season but as in recent seasons very few report being able to freely share and help out other households as in past.

Fort Yukon: water back up and hot. Fish quality dropping off. One fisher 100% done, 2 at 75%. A lot of sharing going on. More chums coming. Paul? fishing was good. We were aloud to fish 6" and fishwheels going, but things got worse.

Eagle: 4 households interviewed, no one fished. 2 had not fished. One was done and stopped for conservation reasons. River low, been hot. Some rain showers, not much drift.

Tanana: river down, fishing pretty good.

Manley Hot Springs: fished on Saturday for 4 hrs., 30 chum, decent shape, water really high, hot. Good for drying.

Nenana: Carl Demintief passed away, ran the barge for many years.

Mayo: hot, water clear and dropping, no debris. 8 fishing, really low numbers. Net in overnight and only caught one, in good shape though small. Using 5.5-6." nets

Teslin: fish here last Friday. Water low, clear. Not harvesting this year to conserve the King salmon.

Whitehorse: a number of folks on the line. Heatwave for week and a half. Fires have not been bad.

Questions and discussion:

Q: Alakanuk: Pam-any fishers seeing rusty foam on the river? Having low tides and now lots of foam.

A: Stan-that is spruce pollen, see it a lot in the summer.

Al-pollen all over the place here too, our lakes are covered with it.

Q: Pam-does it cause any sickness, children?

A: Al, its safe.

Q: Pam-How's fishing going up there.

A: Mary Ellen-going slow in Mayo, and a number communities not fishing by choice.

Q: Jared-how much Chinook made escapement?

A: Mary Ellen-DFO-40k +, could be 74% done. Projecting close to 50k. small harvest and come close to management goal. Conservative approach.

C: Tanana? Ericson-King fishing winding down and shutting down camps, numbers down and quality poor, 50% white flash, most interest edin Fall chum. Needs mostly met but ability to share not so good.

Q:? Manley-are we back to seasonal schedule? Jeff, district 6 in Manley?- yes, open for 2, 48 hrs periods per-week.

Further Information:

For further information, please contact the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association at 907-272-3131 or look for us on the web at www.yukonsalmon.org.

For Alaskan management information, please visit:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingCommercialByArea.interior>

or call toll-free 1-866-479-7387 for recorded fishing schedules and assessment information

For Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada updates, please visit:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/fmcoutingfac.htm>

Please join us on the next teleconference, Tuesday at 1 p.m. Alaska time (2 p.m. Yukon time). As a reminder, the toll free number is 1-800-315-6338 and the code is YUKON# (98566#).