Greetings from the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association!

Here is a summary of the 2nd Yukon River Salmon In-Season Management Teleconference held this past Tuesday, June 9, 2015.

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

**Communities participating this week:** Nunam Iquaa, Saint Mary’s, Pilot Station, Russian Mission, Marshall, Koyukuk, Allakaket, Huslia, Ruby, Tanana, Nenana, Minto, Marsh Lake

**Subsistence Reports:**

Joe Afcan from Nunam Iquaa – people catching summer chum and kings before the regulations close fishing

Martin Kelly – Pilot Station tribal office; very little subsistence activity; ADF&G filled a quarter tote with 12-14 summer chum and 5 sheefish for people in town, water is dropping, the weather overcast and breezy, and no debris.

Sven Pauken from St. Mary’s from Algaaciq – similar to Pilot Station

Nick Andrew and Mike Peters - Marshall– heard of king salmon being caught and released. River dropped some and water still murky and little to no debris on the river.

Norma Evan – Marshall – 2 people are dipnetting

Basil Larson-Russian Mission – 4” nets getting a lot of whitefish, some chum, water going down, no kings.

Benedict Jones from Koyukuk – rainy weather, water is dropping now. Trip to Anvik there was no waterfall and I fished before this and got small sheefish about 2 year old. Three-day bird I heard on Sunday so the kings should come by here tomorrow on the 10th. We are not allowed to subsistence fish this year, so they will be going by tomorrow. No black bear or moose between here and Anvik the whole trip.

Bill D. – Huslia water is dropping and not at an all time low.

Jack Wholecheese in Huslia – usually they hear from Koyukuk if fish are moving up river so want someone on from Koyukuk to report.

Pollock Simon in Allakaket – water is dropping and fishing in the slough for little pikes and whitefish, not enough snow this winter so water is low this year

Martha Wright from Ruby put my net in last night and got 4 sheefish, 1 whitefish, 1 lush and pike. We live in the village and our nets cost an arm and a leg out here and we have to use smaller and smaller nets out here. Folks in the village trying to feed grandchildren. It is ridiculous. When do I pull my net? Everybody has to eat on this river. People can’t live out of the store. Our water is dropping, there is no drift. I don’t understand this. I cannot afford to get another net. I am one mad grandma right now.

Virgil – Fairbanks – water is low on the Tanana River

Victor – Nenana – water is low

Jeep – Minto – water is low, no salmon

**Management Update:**

Managers thanked everyone on the river for conserving salmon.

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

Steve Gotch with DFO and the YR Panel co-chair talked about water levels being low

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

http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/fmcountingfac.htm

**Public comments, questions, and answers:**

People asked about gear use allowed and closure start times for protecting the Canadian origin Chinook salmon to sustain the population of salmon into the future.

People in Huslia questioned why they should have to follow closures for Chinook salmon when they rely only on the chum salmon? Fred Bue said that everyone does still need to help the Chinook salmon that do go up the Koyukuk River. We will try to make it the least painful as we can. ADF&G mentioned the Koyukuk R. is open with 7&1/2 inch gear and we will not close them down until the first pulse moves up there. We did close the Koyukuk R. last year to protect the first pulse too. We will implement a similar restriction schedule up there again.

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.

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#).