Greetings from the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association!

This is a summary of the Yukon River Salmon In-Season Management Teleconference held on Tuesday, July 28, 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 and or community members were participating this week:** Saint Mary’s, Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission, Holy Cross, Anvik, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Huslia, Allakaket, Galena, Ruby, Rapids, Fort Yukon, Nenana Fairbanks, Old Crow, Dawson, Whitehorse, Teslin

**Subsistence Reports:** (reports may be from one individual or a few depending on who participated in the call this week and reflect the participant on the call at the time)

Marshall reported two families fished and that most are out berry picking. One coho and some humpies caught. There were more last year. The fish are good. The water came up and there is no drift.

Holy Cross said no one is fishing and people are waiting for fall chum.

Koyukuk said nothing yet.

Huslia reported they are waiting for fall chum and waiting for the 7.5 inch mesh nets for begger fish. There is some smoke in the air.

Galena said the smokehouses are empty and they are waiting for fall chum

Ruby reported a few are actually fishing but there is no fall chum yet. Two pink salmon were caught today, and the water dropped and they are hoping for a strong chum run.

For reports from the Rampart Rapids please see the following website: www.rapidsresearch.com/

Fort Yukon reported that eight fishermen fished in two small openers and had a small harvest of kings. The majority of them were 3-4 year olds with some chum and it seems like small numbers of the end of the run.

**Management comments, public comments, questions, and answers:**

State managers reported that the front end of the fall chum run is in the river and as far up as Nulato/Koyukuk and as far as Fort Yukon. The federal agency said they know folks upriver need fall chum for the smoke house and hope to provide this.

People asked various questions on the topics of: fish size, what gear they can use and what their fishing schedules are in the different districts.

The king run was reported as over in the lower river and just a trickle going through at Eagle. The border passage is about 60-70,000 but the run was well below average. Fishing families were thanked for protecting the run and targeting other species.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans reported that restrictions were relaxed for First Nations that would enable an allowable catch but most will maintain their moratoriums. Some plan to have a small harvest. The suggestion is for First Nations to harvest 10% of their historical harvest and to use gillnets of 6” or less to allow females to reach the spawning grounds.

A Canadian participant acknowledged the hard work and sacrifices this year. It is not a great run and the only reason the border passage was exceeded and a small harvest may happen in Canada is because of the sacrifice everyone is making.

**Salmon Fisheries Research and Management:**

For Alaskan research and management information, please visit:

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

*OR* he subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call(907) 459-7387

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

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

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#).

The last conference call of the season will take place on August 25th, 2015.