



YUKON RIVER DRAINAGE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION

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Greetings from the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association!

June 28, 2016

Here is a summary of the Yukon River Salmon In-Season Management Teleconference #4, held Tuesday, June 28, 2016. The toll free number is 1-800-315-6338 and the code is YUKON# (98566#).

Background: Yukon River salmon management teleconferences are held annually 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. *The Teleconferences are funded by the Federal Office of Subsistence Management and the Yukon River Panel.*

Communities participating this week:

In Alaska: Alakanuk, Kotlik, St Marys, Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission, Holy Cross, Shageluk, Koyukuk, Huslia, Ruby, Tanana, Rampart, Fort Yukon, Venetie, Eagle, Nenana, Fairbanks

In Yukon Territory Canada: Old Crow, Dawson, Teslin, Whitehorse

Yukon River Subsistence Reports: Alaska

District 1-Lower Yukon

Alakanuk: windy, high water, most subsistence fishers almost done, big run last week, used gill and dip nets, much better fishing report than last week.

Kotlik: finally able to use gill nets and got subsistence needs mostly filled. Catching 50-100 chum and a few kings for smoke houses. About 80% done. Water level down 1.5 foot. Water temperature- 58 degrees. Gill nets and more effort for commercial chum on Sunday 40-200 chum per netting-great! ADFG cut off north mouth and middle cause folks were catching kings which seems absurd with a run size of 144k kings. Will lead to overabundance of kings. River current strong and kings vigorously going up river. More kings are coming.

Kotlik #2: seems unfair Y1 commercial opening only the south mouth. Limited time to get fish and folks need the money for hunting in the fall time. Not appropriate. ADFG limited the gear to 5.5" and when we use it kings get on, they drop off and fall dead into the river, a waste. 6" gear is better. If escapement is being met for kings why don't they open all of Y1?

St. Marys: Erik- good subsistence and commercial openings, short 4 hr., quite a bit of chums, a few kings caught. Community had a visit from Alaska's Lt. Gov. & ADFG Fish Commissioner- community meeting and local fish buyer. Small turnout-thanks for making the effort and seeing how fishery is done and Pilot Station. Past week huge amount of chum and kings going by, from coast all the way up kings running, water dropping. Majority has subsistence on racks now, not like the distant past but better then it has been.

St. Marys #2: fish still coming up the river, chums and nice kings. Visitors- Lt Gov. and Sam Cotton to see operations. Thanks to them.

Pilot Station: families 60% done cutting and drying. 4 hour subsistence opener with 6" gill for kings-helps with the fuel cost. Little subsistence with intermittent commercial openers. First 7" gillnet opening soon. Expresses his thanks for Y2 opener for summer chum. 1/3 of economy relies on commercial harvest. Excellent weather for drying salmon. No debris in the river.

Marshall: 7 households fished. All used gillnets, better. Healthy fish, 447 chum and 10 king harvested. Released a 6 yr. old king. 50-75% done with subsistence harvest. Thanks for the small subsistence opportunity for our small 340 member community. Weather in the 80s, water steady, no drift. Salmon berries almost ready, set-net are catching an abundance of whitefish. Folks will be picking berries now.

Russian Mission: everyone took advantage of 2 subsistence openers. Grateful for having that opportunity. Winds from southeast, no trash, starting to think about berries, 80% done for chum harvest, a few small kings. Timing just right this year. Still a lot of whitefish, using 4" nets, getting about 25/day.

Holy Cross: Alfred-14 boats going out, 10-20 kings per opening. Thanks everyone!

Shageluk: folks are fishing, good weather for drying.

Koyukuk: fishing since last night, 10 boats caught 100 jacks with 6" nets, still fishing, water clear.

Huslia: 4 fishing, more will start in July.

Ruby: 6 fishers, 4" net for whitefish being used.

Tanana: happy-lots of fish in the river. Just a few fishing.

Tanana #2: whitefish being caught.

Rampart: Very unhappy people here. Glad of reports folks in other parts of the river getting needs met. With 6' nets' you can only get dog fish. Sad. We are waiting for opener for kings, 6.5" for kings opener, water high.

Rampart #2: Janet-folks just waiting. 4" mesh just for dogs and whitefish. Managers always wait too late for the weather. Good now and then too late to dry fish. Important you eliminate a lot of conflict if you just open up the season here in Rampart only. People cruising the river. Looking at the report on test fishery, kinda sad, slap in the face, using an 8.5 mesh, then 6 and other sizes. What are they doing? We can't do that. Are they still using those? Disturbing to me. Folks being regulated. Just waiting.

Rampart #3: 25 miles above rampart, water still high and agree with G&J, have not put a net in. We are not commercial unless we can use 7.5.

Fort Yukon: 12 houses contacted, 5 reported fishing. Only 2 kings, others catching a few. Lot of activity and plans to go but fish numbers still low. River dropping slowly, no drift, waiting their turn.

Venetie: 3 fishing only 1 king caught, waiting for the pulse.

Eagle: 4 people contacted, none fishing yet, river dropping a bit.

Nenana: Victor-some tricklers coming in, few kings, ate one and really good, couple up Chena and Salcha. Coming in a little bit. Hope things get worked out for Rampart.

Fairbanks: on but no report.

Yukon River Subsistence Reports: Yukon Territory, Canada

Old Crow: river a bit high, lots of debris, couple nets tried, too much debris. Good weather, thunderstorms keeping river up and debris.

Dawson: volunteer conservation in place, no fish in river yet.

Teslin: no fish yet, just watching border numbers and hoping conservation will remain strong, and hoping for big escapement numbers, really appreciating efforts in AK.

Whitehorse: no fish yet, still waiting for Minister's direction.

Questions for managers about assessment, run strength, timing, etc... for ADFG, USFWS or DFO in Canada: *Answers to questions in red.*

Nenana-*comment-heard unhappiness around Rampart-anytime you shut down the store it creates a hardship for folks up here. Don't forget we're working hard to leave the kings.*

Ramparts-*thanks victor. Still does not get Holly's response District 5 folks would be hearing in a few days. What is coming? Holly, we have not opened for 6" yet. Will likely try to fit in a king opening while protecting 1st and 2nd pulses, opening will be around July 5. Why are others allowed a 7.5" mesh and we are not? Holly, you will get the same opportunity that all others get. Want to make clear, when they open us at the end of July 3rd and 4th pulse, there are lot of females which need to make it to CA. Needs to be on 2nd pulse some. Open now and wait, then a bit more later. Holly-appreciate that, trying to provide opportunity, spread over the run. 3rd pulse a lot more fish so putting folks on there for ease of fishing. Do not want to provide a token but want you on fish. Wanted to touch on, why is ADFG using 8.5" gear? Holly-it's hard to determine numbers, size etc. so we have to use all sizes of nets in order to be accurate and scientific. All mortality go to elders or disabled. Emmonak, Allukanuk and other villages. Less kings killed this year so far, around 980. killed and considered part of subsistence harvest. Understand most folks prefer to fish for themselves but those that cannot get these fish through the tribal councils. 980 king is deplorable and we do not get any of those in Rampart and some of those would come through here. With today's technology why do we have to kill a fish to test them. Last year well over 1000 killed by ADFG, not natives. Long way with no information to determine what's up without the Rapids. Challenge*

Koyukuk-*can you open a 6 hour period for 7.5" for 4A upper. Holly-July 6th.*

Pilot station-*on age composition-opener yesterday, really windy, choppy-average 70 chum, ? kings. Noticed the kings were the size of the chum salmon. Why are the jacks coming back immature-kings getting smaller? Anything being done to know this? Fairbanks, should have gone to small nets 20 years ago. Small fish make small fish. Would like to hear from managers on this . Holly-1st know you've been fishing a long time but when you say you're catching small fish that is what we want with smaller mesh net size. But there is nothing out of the ordinary with small fish numbers from our data.*

Holy Cross-*thanks the managers for a few fish, first in 5 years.*

Fairbanks-*you gave info on genetics on Chinooks, did you do it on Chum? Holly-USFWS does that work and we do not have it yet.*

Marshall-*Pilot Station sonar went by, 1 and 2 pulse went by, numbers in Y1? My concern with all these numbers, wonder how much fish passed Eagle sonar and across the border. Would like to see the printout. Meeting the CA escapement? Holly- to clarify, we do not have passage yet, 28 days to get from Pilot to Eagle. As far as a printout not sure what you need. Anyone can get our daily updates by signing up. Call me.*

Fred-per Fairbanks question-1st 5/30-6/21 99% summer chum rest is ?, 90% lower and 10% middle river. More next week.

***Kotlik**-why do they open commercial only for south mouth and not the rest of the mouth. Holly-appreciate that question. We did have an earlier commercial and the catch was enough and we wanted to concentrate where kings were not coming in so reduce but not halt fishing, limiting fishing to the south mouth. Still trying to access the run for making the escapement goals. Be patient for kings to come through so we can open up. Thank you. In 1997 I was privileged to be on the exchange trip to Canada. During that trip in Dawson toward end of July-1st nation officer said there was an opener that morning. Who authorized that? They said Fish and Game. They had opener and we did not. Feel like we, YI, have got the brunt, not allowed to get chums when they are here, my son got a lot less. Further in Teslin-Carl Sidney told his people-fishing is the only industry these guys have. Not good to take away our chance for some \$ for subsistence in fall-time. Hearing our tribes are starting to want to manage and feel it may be time.*

***Rampart**-no reason why we can't do that. Regulations are doing whatever they want.*

***St Marys**-kinda agree with Robert, their community is struggling. Maybe we need to make it fairer for Kotlik. They have a short window for chum. Somehow, it's been pretty unfair for them.*

***Russian Mission**-1st-thanks to in-river managers and seeing advantages of 4" and dipnets. Maybe Pollock guys should use 4".*

?-missed the numbers-Holly-1st Pulse 52% Canadian, 2nd and 3rd down. Total 134K as of yesterday.

?-before we have calls there is a complete river report. Why there is a little confusion. Not having that but going by sections on the river, not the whole river which would make things understandable. We on the lower, we have to wait too. Fish been going up the river since last month. Holly, the assessment/weekly update out each Monday before the call, also sent by email.

***Rampart**-understands that. No internet access. How many folks do not have access to that report. Holly-have a telephone line-call that for basic assessment; 866/479-7387-updated daily. Are there better ways to get it out?*

***Fairbanks**-1997-Yukon River Panel's Joint Technical Committee book-for perspective 1997, 174,886 kings harvested in the commercial fishery-not including Tanana. 16K King salmon harvested in Canada. Total run now is 136K. In 1997 we caught that many fish! We are in dire straits, if we don't make sacrifices we'll lose the fish totally.*

Nenana-these teleconferences are invaluable.

Fisheries management information from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game:

For Alaskan management regulation announcements, news releases and most current updates for the fishing season, please visit on the web:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main> 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-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm>

or call toll-free 604-666-2828 or 866-431-3474 for recorded fishing schedules and information.

For further information, please contact the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association at 907-272-3141 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. Canadian time) and THANK YOU for participating!

Wayne Jenkins
YRDFA Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial "W".

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**2016 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 44
Summer Update # 6, Yukon Area Salmon Fishery
Districts Affected: Yukon Area**

Assessment

Based on sonar and run timing estimates, the 2016 summer chum salmon run is on track to be near the upper end of the preseason outlook range of 1.3 to 1.8 million fish. The 2016 Chinook salmon run is on track to be near the middle to upper end of the preseason outlook range of 130,000 to 175,000 fish. Preliminary run timing dates suggest the 2016 Chinook salmon run may be up to five days earlier than the historical average run timing. A Chinook salmon run size of this magnitude is lower than the historical early year average, but does have the potential to meet escapement goals and objectives and provide a very limited subsistence harvest. However, given the recent trend of low Yukon River Chinook salmon run sizes, it is still too early to project whether escapement goals will be met until Chinook salmon passage increases at escapement projects. At this point, the department is hopeful that the conservative management actions and sacrifices made by fishermen to date will result in attaining spawning escapements needed to sustain this Chinook salmon run for future generations.

As of June 27, three Chinook and two summer chum salmon pulses have been identified at the sonar project near Pilot Station and their upriver travel has been tracked using average swimming speed. The first pulse of approximately 23,000 Chinook salmon lasted four days at the sonar project and should be passing Rampart. A second, three-day, pulse of approximately 33,000 Chinook salmon closely followed the first pulse and should be between Ruby and Tanana. The third pulse of approximately 47,000 Chinook salmon lasted six days at the sonar project and should be between Grayling and Kaltag. The first pulse of approximately 395,000 summer chum salmon lasted six days at the sonar project and should be between Kaltag and Koyukuk. The second pulse of approximately 244,000 summer chum salmon should be between Holy Cross and Anvik. The average historical midpoint for early run Chinook salmon is June 19 and the median historical midpoint for early run summer chum salmon at the sonar project is June 25.

Genetic mixed stock analysis (MSA) on the early group and first pulse of Chinook salmon past the sonar project near Pilot Station (May 30 to June 14) estimated 52% of the fish were of Canadian-origin, which is slightly above expectations for even-year Chinook salmon runs. The Chinook salmon age composition from drift gillnets in the Pilot Station test fishery through June 17 was 14% age-4, 68% age-5, and 17% age-6, and 2% age-7 fish. The sample size was 282 fish, of which 42% were female. The age-5 percentage was above average, the age-6 percentage was below average, and the proportion of females was above average. Genetic MSA and analysis of age-sex-length data for Chinook salmon passing by the sonar project during the next sampling strata are being performed at this time.

Fishermen are reminded that the Yukon River Inseason Salmon Management Teleconferences hosted by the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association will be held every Tuesday, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Alaska time. Dial (800) 315-6338, and enter participant code: YUKON #.

Assessment Projects

Lower Yukon Test Fishery (LYTF) / ADF&G and YDFDA

The cumulative Chinook salmon CPUE for the 8.5-inch set gillnets at the Big Eddy and Middle Mouth sites combined as of June 26 is 30.44, which is above the historical average of 23.66. The cumulative Chinook salmon CPUE at the 8.25-inch drift gillnet at the Big Eddy site as of June 26 is 461.48, which is above the historical average of 322.21. The combined cumulative summer chum salmon CPUE for the 5.5-inch drift gill net at the Big Eddy and Middle Mouth sites as of June 26 is 7,742.54, which is well above the historical median of 4,016.52 for this date.

Operations at the LYTF for both Chinook and summer chum salmon have been altered from previous years so caution should be taken when comparing current catch rates to historical catch rates. All healthy Chinook salmon are released alive from the test nets and injured salmon are distributed to village elders by the Tribal Councils. Fewer set net sites are being fished than in the past to reduce Chinook salmon mortality.

Sonar Project near Pilot Station / ADF&G

The sonar project near Pilot Station has been fully operational since June 1, which is one of the earliest start dates since 1995. The project is operating well and has not experienced any major issues from debris or equipment malfunction. Chinook salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 126,474 fish which is above the historical cumulative average of 116,033 Chinook salmon for this date but below the average of 162,075 for years with early timing. Summer chum salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 1,055,785 fish which is well above the historical cumulative median of 701,856 summer chum salmon for this date.

East Fork Andreafsky River Weir / USFWS

The East Fork Andreafsky River weir began operations on June 20. Chinook salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 131 fish, which is above the historical cumulative average of 35 Chinook salmon for this date. Summer chum salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 12,698, which is above the historical cumulative median of 1,076 for this date. The Sustainable Escapement Goal (SEG)

for the Andreafsky River is 2,100–4,900 for Chinook salmon and greater than 40,000 for summer chum salmon.

Anvik River Sonar / ADF&G

The Anvik River sonar began operations on June 16. Summer chum salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 60,154 fish, which is above the historical cumulative median of 12,969 summer chum salmon for this date. The Biological Escapement Goal (BEG) for summer chum salmon is 350,000–700,000 fish past the sonar project.

Gisasa River Weir / USFWS

The Gisasa River weir began operations on June 17, which is one of the earliest start dates since 1995. Chinook salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 10 fish, which is below the historical cumulative average of 16 Chinook salmon for this date. Summer chum salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 4,430 fish, which is above the historical median of 255 summer chum salmon for this date.

Chena River Tower / ADF&G

The Chena River tower began operations on June 26. Chinook salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 3 fish, which is below the historical cumulative average of 13 Chinook salmon for this date. No summer chum salmon have been observed at the tower. The BEG for Chinook salmon is 2,800–5,700 past the tower.

Salcha River Tower / ADF&G

The Salcha River tower began operations on June 26. Chinook salmon passage as of June 26 is estimated to be 9 fish, which is below the historical cumulative average of 14 Chinook salmon for this date. No summer chum salmon have been observed at the tower. The BEG for Chinook salmon is 3,300–6,500 past the tower.

Management Strategies

In order to protect the early fish and first pulse of Chinook salmon as they made their way upriver, subsistence Chinook salmon fishing closures were implemented from the Northern Portion of the Coastal District up through District 5 based on average swimming speed.

Consistent with the management strategies discussed at the pre-season planning meeting, in an effort to provide more regular fishing opportunity rather than very short-notice “surgical” openings, the reduced regulatory schedule is being used to provide fishing opportunity in Districts 1 through 4 with gillnet mesh restricted to 6” and will continue upriver. The intent of these gillnet openings is to provide fishermen opportunity to more efficiently meet their subsistence needs for summer chum salmon while providing some limited harvest of Chinook salmon with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets. Chinook salmon caught in 6-inch gillnet gear are likely to be smaller, younger fish with a higher proportion of males. Effort has been made to put each district on this reduced schedule in such a way that the harvest is spread equitably across the Chinook run, while still protecting the first pulse.

Given the cumulative passage of Chinook salmon past the sonar project near Pilot Station, and Chinook salmon run projections that indicate escapement goals are likely to be met, subsistence

fishermen in Districts 2 through 5C will likely be provided one short 7.5-inch mesh gillnet subsistence period spaced between their reduced regulatory periods.

The 2016 summer chum salmon run is expected to be average to above average so liberal summer chum salmon subsistence fishing with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets has been provided in Districts 1 through 5-C. The selective gear subsistence fishery has been discontinued for the remainder of the summer season. Summer chum salmon commercial fishing periods with 5.5-inch gillnets not exceeding 30 meshes in depth have been provided in District 1. District 2 will have its first 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnet commercial period on Monday, June 27.

General Management Reminders:

- During subsistence salmon fishing closures in the Yukon Area, gillnets 4-inch or smaller mesh of 60 feet or shorter length may be used for non-salmon species. All salmon caught in 4-inch gillnets may be retained but fishermen may not target salmon as this gear is intended for non-salmon species. If it is determined that fishermen are using gillnets larger than 4-inch mesh size to target Chinook salmon during Chinook salmon closures, enforcement may seize this gear and the opportunity to use 4-inch gillnets to target non-salmon may be removed.
- Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be retained for subsistence use.

Current Management

Southern Portion of the Coastal District (from the Naskonat Peninsula north to 62 degrees North latitude): Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence salmon fishing will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Northern Portion of the Coastal District (from 62 degrees North latitude to Point Romanof and including all state marine waters): Subsistence salmon fishing is currently closed.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence salmon fishing will open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

District 1 (including the Black River):

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets except for six hours before, during, and six hours after commercial fishing periods. Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be retained for subsistence use.

District 2:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is currently closed.

Effective 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, subsistence salmon fishing will open for one 4-hour period with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 28.

Starting Wednesday, June 29, at 12:01 a.m. subsistence fishing will be open 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets except for six hours before, during, and six hours after commercial fishing periods. Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be retained for subsistence use.

District 3: Currently, subsistence summer chum salmon fishing is open for two 18-hour periods per week on the following schedule with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets:

- 8:00 p.m. Sundays to 2:00 p.m. Mondays
- 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays to 2:00 p.m. Thursdays

Effective 7:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence salmon fishing will open for one 4-hour period with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Friday, July 1. Following this opening, subsistence fishing will return to the two 18-hour periods per week schedule.

Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be retained for subsistence use. Between the fishing periods subsistence salmon fishing is closed. The dip net and beach seine subsistence fishery has been discontinued for the remainder of the season

Innoko River:

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Subdistrict 4-A Lower (from $\frac{3}{4}$ mile downstream of Old Paradise Village upstream to Stink Creek, which includes the mainstem Yukon River communities of Anvik and Grayling including all tributaries):

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open for two 24-hour periods per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on the following schedule:

- 6:00 p.m. Sundays until 6:00 p.m. Mondays
- 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays until 6:00 p.m. Thursdays

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence salmon fishing will open for one 6-hour period with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. midnight Friday, July 1. Following this opening, subsistence fishing will return to the two 24-hour periods per week schedule.

All salmon caught in gillnets and fish wheels may be retained for subsistence use. Drift and set gillnets are allowed in all of Subdistrict 4-A during subsistence salmon openings. A set gillnet may not exceed 150 fathoms and a drift gillnet may not exceed 25 fathoms in length.

Subdistrict 4-A Upper: (from Stink Creek upstream to Cone Point, which includes the mainstem Yukon River communities of Kaltag, Nulato, and Koyukuk):

Effective 6:00 p.m. Monday, June 27, subsistence salmon fishing will be open for two 24-hour periods per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on the following schedule:

- 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays
- 6:00 p.m. Thursdays until 6:00 p.m. Fridays

Effective 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 6, subsistence salmon fishing will open for one 6-hour period with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. midnight Wednesday, July 6. Following this opening, subsistence fishing will return to the two 24-hour periods per week schedule.

All salmon caught in gillnets and fish wheels may be retained for subsistence use. Drift and set gillnets are allowed in all of Subdistrict 4-A during subsistence salmon openings. A set gillnet may not exceed 150 fathoms and a drift gillnet may not exceed 25 fathoms in length.

Subdistrict 4-B and 4-C (from Cone Point to Illinois Creek, which includes the mainstem Yukon River communities of Galena and Ruby):

Currently, subsistence summer chum salmon fishing is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with selective gear including dip nets, beach seines, and live-release fish wheels only. Any Chinook salmon caught in these gear types must be immediately released to the water alive.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 3, subsistence salmon fishing will be open for two 24-hour periods per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on the following schedule:

- 6:00 p.m. Sundays until 6:00 p.m. Mondays
- 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays until 6:00 p.m. Thursdays

Federal regulations allow the use of drift gillnets for the subsistence harvest of Chinook salmon in Federal public waters in Yukon River Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C from June 10 through July 14 during scheduled gillnet openings. Fishermen who want to fish with drift gillnets in Federal public waters of Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C may do so on the above schedule with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnet gear until July 14. Anyone outside of these areas are limited to set gillnets only. All salmon caught in gillnets and fish wheels may be retained for subsistence use.

Koyukuk River:

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week and fishermen may use 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, subsistence salmon fishing will be open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C (from the western edge of the mouth of Illinois Creek upstream to the ADF&G regulatory marker located approximately two miles downstream of Waldron Creek, including the communities of Tanana and Rampart as well as the area near the Yukon River bridge):

Subsistence summer chum salmon fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with selective gear including dip nets, beach seines, and live-release fish wheels only. Any Chinook salmon caught in these gear types must be immediately released to the water alive.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, subsistence salmon fishing will be open for two 24-hour periods per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets (set net only) and fish wheels on the following schedule:

- 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays until 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays
- 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Saturdays

All salmon caught in set gillnets and fish wheels may be retained for subsistence use. A fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the mouth of Dall River.

Subdistrict 5-D Lower (from an ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek upstream to the Hadweenzic River and including all adjacent tributaries, which includes the communities of Stevens Village and Beaver):

Subsistence fishing in Subdistrict 5-D Lower is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week and fishermen may use 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels. Chinook salmon may be retained from these gear types.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 28, subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistrict 5-D Lower will close.

Subdistrict 5-D Middle (from the Hadweenzic River upstream to 22 Mile Slough and including the Porcupine River and all other adjacent tributaries, which includes the communities of Venetie, Chalkyitsik and Fort Yukon):

Subsistence fishing in Subdistrict 5-D Middle is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week and fishermen may use 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels. Chinook salmon may be retained from these gear types.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistrict 5-D Middle will close.

Subdistrict 5-D Upper (from 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border and including all adjacent tributaries, which includes the communities of Circle City and Eagle):

Subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistrict 5-D Upper is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels. Chinook salmon may be retained from these gear types.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 3, subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistrict 5-D Upper will

close.

A fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the following locations: between the western tip of Garnet Island and the Dall River (Dalton Highway bridge area) and from the upstream mouth of 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border.

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B: Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B currently consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesdays and from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 12:00 noon Sundays, and fisherman may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh and fish wheels to conserve Chinook salmon. Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in the Kantishna River will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh and fish wheels to conserve Chinook salmon. The Kantishna River will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule of 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

Old Minto Area: Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open five days per week from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays and fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in the Old Minto Area will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh and fish wheels to conserve Chinook salmon. The Old Minto Area will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a subsistence fishing permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana River drainage. Permits are available from the ADF&G office in Fairbanks. Subsistence fishermen fishing in the upper portion of Subdistrict 6-B, from three miles upstream of the mouth of Totchaket Slough to Wood River, are required to report their harvest catches to the department by **4:30 PM Thursday** each week by contacting the department at **(907) 459-7388**. When you call, please provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by species for that week.

Upper Tanana Area (the Tanana River from the confluence with the mouth of Volkmar River on the north bank and the mouth of the Johnson River on the south bank upstream to the Tanana River headwaters, including the communities of Healy Lake, Dot Lake, Tanacross, Northway, and the Tok area): Subsistence fishing is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week. Fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Subdistricts 6-C (from the regulatory marker at the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River, which includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha):

Personal use salmon fishing currently consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Friday until 12:00 p.m. noon Sunday and from 6:00 p.m. Monday until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesday. Fishermen may use 6-inch or smaller mesh set-gillnets, dip nets, and live-release fish wheels. Fish wheel and dip net fishermen must release Chinook salmon alive.

Commercial Fishing:

Fishermen requested at pre-season management meetings that the department provide an alternating schedule rather than concurrent subsistence and commercial periods for lower river districts in order to reduce competition among fishing sites. The department is endeavoring to accommodate these requests along with any limitations the processor may have when scheduling commercial periods.

District 1 (including the Black River):

Commercial summer chum salmon fishing in District 1 will open for two **4-hour** periods with gillnets **restricted to 5.5-inch or smaller mesh and a maximum of 30 meshes deep** for the following commercial fishing periods:

- Monday, June 27, 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. midnight
- Tuesday, June 28, 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. midnight

The portion open to commercial fishing will be the South Mouth area down river of the lower point of Head of Passes (also known as 10-mile island) continuing on to the Black River. The area open to commercial fishing includes Black River, Kwiguk Pass, and coastal waters from the Black River to one mile north of Kwiguk Pass. Areas closed to commercial fishing include: Middle and North Mouth up to Pt. Romanof and passes such as Aproka and Bugomowik, north of the mainstem South Mouth.

All Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be retained for subsistence use. Chinook salmon retained from commercial gillnet gear must be recorded on a fish ticket as “kept but not sold”.

All Chinook salmon d retained for subsistence use during the commercial gillnet opening must be marked by removing both tips of the tail fins. The tips must be removed before concealing the Chinook salmon from plain view or before transferring the salmon from the fishing site.

District 2 Commercial:

Effective at 12:00 p.m. noon Monday, June 27, the dip net and beach seine commercial fishery will close and commercial summer chum salmon fishing in District 2 will open for a **4-hour** commercial fishing period with gillnets **restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh** for the following commercial fishing period:

- Monday, June 27, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 4:00 p.m.

All Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be retained for subsistence use. Chinook salmon retained from commercial gillnet gear must be recorded on a fish ticket as “kept but not sold”.

All Chinook salmon retained for subsistence use during the commercial gillnet opening must be marked by removing both tips of the tail fin. The tips must be removed before concealing the Chinook salmon from plain view or before transferring the salmon from the fishing site.

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

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADF&G office in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak at (907) 949-1798.

This is an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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