

Supplemental Material Tab 4

runs. If runs come in better than anticipated, fishing opportunities will be implemented based on the amount of surplus available.

Tribal Consultation, Public Outreach, and Upcoming Meetings.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will continue to offer government-to-government Tribal Consultation meetings. Pre-season Tribal Consultation meetings will be held for each district during the month of May or at the request of any Yukon River Tribal Government, and we encourage Tribal leaders to participate in these meetings.

The outlook and management strategy will be discussed in depth this spring at the following meetings: Yukon River Panel April 1-5, the Yukon River Intertribal Fish Commission (YRITFC) preseason meeting, and the Yukon River Drainage Fishermen's Association (YRDFFA) Board meeting April 17 and 18, and public preseason fishermen's meeting April 19 and 20.

An Outlook flier presenting the finalized pre-season management strategy will be mailed to all Yukon River households sometime in early May and will likely be released as a cooperative ADF&G and Service Advisory Announcement. Additionally, inseason assessment data and management actions will be discussed weekly on the Tuesday YRDFFA teleconferences, shared on the ADF&G Facebook page, and through regular advisory announcements. Daily test fish counts and fishery announcements can be found on ADF&G's toll-free hotline, 1-866-479-7387.

Throughout the season management staff are available by phone or email.

Ichthyophonus Study

Fishers in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C reported an increase in *Ichthyophonus* during the 2020 and 2021 seasons, leading to a multi-agency collaboration to investigate the impacts of disease on Yukon River Chinook salmon. Unfortunately, this research requires that approximately 180 Chinook Salmon be sacrificed from each sampling location. In 2023, sampling will occur at Pilot Station sonar, the Rapids, Fort Yukon and Eagle sonar. Some may feel that sacrificing Chinook Salmon for a study is unacceptable when subsistence fishers are being restricted.

The USFWS and ADF&G is looking for your feedback and support for *Ichthyophonus* sampling during the next few seasons. Included is an informational flyer on this study that outlines the ongoing work and how sacrificed fish will be distributed to the community for subsistence use.

To reduce the harvest of fish drainage-wide for research purposes, and to focus on other research projects, the Lower Yukon Chinook Set Net Test Fishery in Emmonak will not be run, which will reduce the take of Chinook by, on average, about 150 fish. In concert with the *Ichthyophonus* investigation, a Chinook tagging study will be operated in the lower river by ADF&G. Live Chinook will be tagged with a radio tag and tracked up river in order to test if in river mortality is occurring, and where. A flier about this project will also be provided.

The managers would like to acknowledge the very serious hardship the last few seasons has caused Yukon River families. We would also like to thank Yukon River fishers for their input and feedback during these difficult years, and commend those Tribes and communities that took steps to provide fishing gear, freezers, and came up with creative solutions to compensate for loss of salmon meals. Yukon fishers have shown incredible resiliency in adapting to the changing environment and changing salmon run sizes.