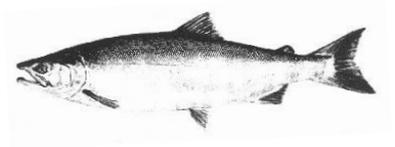


**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelly, Director*



Contact:
Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist
Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 949-1320
Fax: (907) 949-1830

Lower Yukon Area Field Office
P.O. Box 127
Emmonak, Alaska 99581

Date Issued: 8/2/16

**2016 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 17
Yukon River District 2 Commercial Period 5
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area
Emergency Order # 16**

The 2016 fall chum salmon preseason run projection, based on the summer chum to fall chum salmon run size relationship, is for a run size between 800,000 and 900,000 fish. This level of abundance should be sufficient to provide for escapement, an above average subsistence harvest, and a surplus available for commercial and personal use purposes. The estimated fall chum salmon passage at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station through August 1 is 375,600 fish, which is above the historical median of 195,600 fish for that date.

District 2 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 2 on Wednesday, August 3 from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh size.

Verbal reports from the District 2 commercial opening on July 31 indicate a preliminary harvest of 7,959 fall chum and 132 coho salmon from 83 deliveries. The cumulative commercial harvest in District 2 to date is 53,084 fall chum and 181 coho salmon.

District 2 Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is open during the fall season 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches, except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period. In District 2, subsistence salmon fishing will close at 2:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 3, and reopen at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, August 4.

Fishermen may use 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets to target non-salmon species during subsistence salmon closures.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day, toll free at 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or the Fairbanks office at 459-7274. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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