

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



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**2017 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 17
Subdistrict 4-A Subsistence Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area**

This news release replaces Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #15 issued on June 17 by relaxing gillnet restrictions sooner. Current Chinook salmon assessment near the midpoint in the run indicates run strength is similar or better than 2016, therefore subsistence fishing opportunity is warranted. After the first pulse of Chinook salmon has passed through District 4, fishing will open on the regulatory schedule with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh. The intent of this action is to spread harvest across more of the run, providing harvest opportunity sooner after the first pulse than 2016, so fishermen can harvest higher quality summer chum and Chinook salmon while drying conditions are typically better.

Subdistrict 4-A Lower (including the Anvik River):

Subsistence fishing is currently open with dip nets, beach seines, and live-release fish wheels only to target summer chum salmon 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All Chinook salmon must be released alive from these selective gear types.

Effective 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, subsistence fishing with selective gear will close and immediately re-open with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on the regulatory fishing schedule of two 48-hour periods per week:

- 6 p.m. Wednesdays until 6 p.m. Fridays
- 6 p.m. Sundays until 6 p.m. Tuesdays

Fishermen may keep any Chinook salmon harvested in set and drift gillnets and fish wheels during these periods.

Subdistrict 4-A Upper:

Fishing is currently open with dip nets, beach seines, and live-release fish wheels only to target summer chum salmon 24 hours a day, until 6 p.m. Sunday, June 25. All Chinook salmon must be released alive from these selective gear types.

Effective 6 p.m. Sunday, June 25, subsistence fishing with selective gear will close and immediately re-open with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on the regulatory fishing schedule of two 48-hour periods per week:

- **6 p.m. Sundays until 6 p.m. Tuesdays**
- **6 p.m. Wednesdays until 6 p.m. Fridays**

Fishermen may keep any Chinook salmon harvested in set and drift gillnets and fish wheels during these periods.

Koyukuk River:

The Koyukuk River is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days a week with fish wheels and 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

During fishing closures, fishermen may use gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh of 60 feet or shorter length to target non salmon species. Chinook salmon harvested in 4-inch or smaller gillnets may be kept.

Fishing schedules, test fish catches and sonar counts are available 24 hours a day at **(866) 479-7387** (toll free); in Fairbanks, call **(907) 459-7387**.

If you have any questions, please call ADF&G in Emmonak at 949-1320, or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak at 949-1798.

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