

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director*



Contact:
Holly Carroll, Area Management Biologist
Deena Jallen, Assistant Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 949-1320
Fax: (907) 949-1830

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

Date Issued: 06/21/2017

**2017 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 20
District 1 Commercial Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area**

Inseason assessment indicates that nearly 1 million summer chum have entered the Yukon River. In District 1 commercial fishing with selective gear will close and fishing with summer chum gillnets will begin. Two 4-hour commercial periods are being announced with 5.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets not exceeding 30 meshes in depth. This restricted gear option is to allow for summer chum salmon commercial opportunity that is more efficient than dip nets and beach seines, while also minimizing the incidental harvest of Chinook salmon. All Chinook salmon caught in the commercial fishery must be kept for subsistence use and recorded on your fish ticket.

Management Actions:

District 1 (including Black River) Commercial:

Commercial fishing with dip nets and beach seines will be open for one more period from 3 p.m. Wednesday, June 21 until 3 a.m. Thursday, June 22. All Chinook salmon must be released alive and recorded on a fish ticket. **After this period, commercial fishing with dip nets and beach seines will close.**

Commercial fishing with 5.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets not exceeding 30 meshes in depth will open for two 4-hour periods:

- 9 p.m. Friday, June 23 until 1 a.m. Saturday, June 24
- 9 p.m. Sunday, June 25 until 1 a.m. Monday, June 26

Any Chinook salmon caught in gillnet gear during the commercial gillnet openings may be kept for subsistence use and must be recorded on a fish ticket as “kept but not sold”. Chinook salmon kept for subsistence use during the commercial gillnet openings 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.

District 1 (including Black River and North Coastal District) Subsistence:

Subsistence fishing is open from 4 a.m. until 2 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays (one 10-hr period each day) with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets. Dip nets may no longer be used for subsistence salmon fishing.

General Reminder: 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.

-end-