

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2019 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 35 Districts 1 and 2 Subsistence and Commercial Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

With passage at Pilot Station sonar of over 1.2 million summer chum salmon, a commercial surplus is available for harvest. The Chinook salmon run is over 98% complete in the lower river. Current passage at Pilot Station sonar is over 200,000 Chinook salmon and indicates run sizes coming in near the upper end of the preseason forecast. Escapement goals and harvest share objectives are likely to be met, and unrestricted subsistence opportunity to harvest Chinook salmon is being provided. The department, after consideration of the data and discussion with the U.S. section of the Yukon River Panel, has allowed the sale of incidentally caught Chinook salmon during commercial openings for chum salmon. This is in accordance with the Yukon River King Salmon Management Plan and the management strategy presented and discussed with fishermen at preseason planning meetings for Chinook runs coming in near the upper end of the forecast.

Subsistence fishermen in District 1 and 2 must remove the tips of the tail fin of Chinook salmon caught during subsistence openings. This measure is required in regulation and is intended to prevent the unlawful sale of subsistence-caught Chinook salmon.

District 1 Commercial:

Commercial fishing will open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets:

- A 16-hour period from 2 p.m. Saturday, July 13 to 6 a.m. Sunday, July 14
- A 14-hour period from 4 p.m. Sunday, July 14 to 6 a.m. Monday, July 15
- A 10-hour period from 2 p.m. to midnight Monday, July 15

District 2 Commercial:

Commercial fishing will open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets:

- A 12-hour period from 6 p.m. Friday, July 12 to 6 a.m. Saturday, July 13
- A 12-hour period from 6 p.m. Sunday, July 14 to 6 a.m. Monday, July 15
- A 12-hour period from 6 p.m. Monday, July 15 to 6 a.m. Tuesday, July 16
- A 12-hour period from 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 16 to 6 a.m. Wednesday, July 17

Chinook salmon may be sold during these commercial openings. All Chinook salmon sold or retained for subsistence during commercial openings must be recorded on a fish ticket. Fishermen must confirm they have a buyer and should check on tender locations prior to fishing.

District 1 subsistence:

Subsistence fishing is open on a schedule of two 18-hour periods per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from:

- 2 p.m. Fridays to 8 a.m. Saturdays
- 2 p.m. Tuesdays to 8 a.m. Wednesdays

Subsistence fishermen must remove both tips of the tail fin of Chinook salmon caught during subsistence openings.

District 2 subsistence:

Subsistence fishing is open on a schedule of two 18-hour periods per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from:

- 2 p.m. Saturdays to 8 a.m. Sundays
- 2 p.m. Wednesdays to 8 a.m. Thursdays

Subsistence fishermen must remove both tips of the tail fin of Chinook salmon caught during subsistence openings.



Both tips (lobes) of the fin must be removed before concealing Chinook salmon from plain view or removing the salmon from the fishing site.

This is an announcement by the ADF&G in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. To reach the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks call 455-1849.

News releases, test fish catches, and sonar counts are also available on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG/

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