

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



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director*



Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Holly Carroll, Area Management Biologist
Sabrina Garcia, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Lower Yukon Area Office
P.O. Box 127
Emmonak, AK 99581
Phone: (907) 949-1320
Fax: (907) 949-1830

U.S. Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Subsistence Board
Karen P. Clark, Acting Regional Director
Gene Peltola, Asst. Regional Director Subsistence
Fred Bue, Yukon Area Inseason Manager
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office
101 12th Avenue, Rm 110
Fairbanks, AK 99701
Phone: (907) 455-1849 or 1-800-267-3997
Fax (907) 455-1853

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**2016 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 39
District 2 Subsistence and Commercial Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area**

As of June 25, the sonar project near Pilot Station has estimated a cumulative passage of approximately 124,000 Chinook salmon. This cumulative passage estimate is well above average for this date, but below average for years with early run timing. However, based on sonar and run timing estimates, the 2016 Chinook salmon run is on track to be near the middle to upper end of the preseason outlook range of 130,000 to 175,000 Chinook salmon. A run of this size should be adequate to meet escapement goals and provide a limited harvestable surplus of Chinook salmon for subsistence.

Consistent with management strategies discussed at the pre-season meeting, subsistence fishing has been open on a reduced regulatory schedule with gillnets restricted to 6-inch mesh in an effort to provide summer chum harvest and very limited harvest of Chinook salmon. An additional 4-hour subsistence salmon fishing opportunity with 7.5 inch mesh or smaller gillnets is being provided in District 2. One hour after this short period, subsistence fishing will open to 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets except for 6 hours before, during, and 6 hours after commercial fishing periods.

Management Actions

District 2 Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is open on the following schedule:

- Sunday, June 26, from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight for a 9-hour period **with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets**
- Tuesday, June 28, from 7:00 p.m. to 11 p.m. for one 4-hour period **with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets**
- Starting Wednesday, June 29 at 12:01 a.m. subsistence fishing is open 24 hours per day, seven days per week, except for 6 hours before, during and 6 hours after commercial periods with gear restricted to **6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets**

Dip nets and beach seines may no longer be used for subsistence and Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be kept for subsistence use.

Subsistence fishermen may use 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets not exceeding 60 feet in length to target non-salmon species during subsistence salmon closures.

District 2 Commercial Fishing Schedule:

As previously announced, at 12:00 p.m. noon Monday, June 27, the dip net and beach seine commercial fishery will close and commercial summer chum salmon fishing in District 2 will open for a **4-hour** commercial fishing period with gillnets **restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh** on Monday, June 27, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 4:00 p.m.

All Chinook salmon caught in gillnets may be kept for subsistence use and must be recorded on a fish ticket as “kept but not sold”. All Chinook salmon kept during the commercial gillnet openings must be marked by removing both tips of the tail fins. The tips must be removed before concealing the Chinook salmon from plain view or before transferring the salmon from the fishing site.

Commercial fishermen should stand by for short-notice announcements of commercial gillnet periods.

The subsistence and commercial fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at **(866) 479-7387** (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call **(907) 459-7387**.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADF&G office in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak at (907) 949-1798.

This is an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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