ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



Contact:

Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist

Phone: (907) 459-7274

Toll free fishing schedule hotline: (866) 479-7387

Upper Yukon Area Office 1300 College Rd. Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Date Issued: 9/5/18

2018 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 58 District 1 Commercial Period 18 and Subsistence Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2018 coho salmon are late in entering the Yukon River. Although the current cumulative passage of 129,200 coho salmon at the mainstem sonar as of September 4 is below the median of 152,700 fish, the projected total run size of 270,300 fish is above the median run size of 209,000 fish

Based on inseason assessment, a limited surplus of coho salmon remains in addition to that harvested in the fall chum salmon directed commercial fishery. By regulation, effective September 1, the coho salmon directed commercial fishing season opened in Districts 1 and 2 and management transitions to the Yukon River Coho Salmon Management Plan. By regulation, the coho salmon fishing season ends by September 10.

District 1 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will open for one period in the <u>Set Net Only Area</u> of District 1 on Thursday, September 6 from 12:00 noon until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period for the <u>Set Net Only Area</u> with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets. The remainder of District 1 will be open to commercial fishing on Thursday, September 6 from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers:

The Pastolik and Pastoliak rivers near Apoon Pass, including 500 yards around their mouths (see map below), are closed to commercial fishing. Also, subsistence fishing with gillnets is closed in these waters, including gillnets with 4-inch mesh or less, for closures before, during, and after each commercial opening.

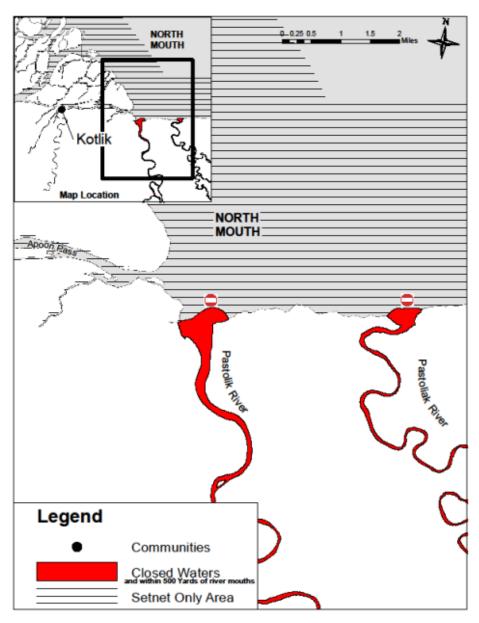
District 1 Subsistence Fishing:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 1 is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches, except for closures before, during, and after each commercial fishing period. For this commercial opening, subsistence salmon fishing in

District 1, including the Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers, will close at 12:00 midnight Wednesday, September 5, and reopen at 9:00 a.m. Friday, September 7.

The Emmonak field office closed for the season. For information regarding schedules and commercial openings, please call (866) 479-7387. You can also contact the Fairbanks office Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. at 459-7274.

This is an announcement by the ADF&G in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Map showing location of Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers closed to commercial fishing.
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