

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



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2015 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 15
Fall Announcement # 15, Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C Subsistence Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The 2015 fall chum salmon preseason run projection, based on the summer chum to fall chum salmon relationship, is for a run size between 700,000 and 800,000 fish. This level of abundance should be sufficient to provide for escapement, an above average subsistence harvest, and a surplus available for commercial and personal use purposes.

The first pulse of fall chum salmon entered the Yukon River on July 17 and was approximately 100,000 fish. This first pulse should reach the communities of Tanana around August 6 and Rampart on August 8. Over the last week fall chum salmon entry into Yukon River has been steady and interspersed with smaller groups. As a result of the severe Chinook salmon restrictions put in place in the Yukon area this season, opportunity to harvest fall chum salmon for subsistence use is being increased to compensate for hardship earlier in the season. Therefore, the current subsistence schedule is being relaxed in Subdistrict 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C.

Beginning 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 4, subsistence fishing in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C will be open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, and fishermen can use gillnets with a mesh size of up to 7.5 inches.

Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, & 5-C (from Illinois Creek upstream to regulatory markers 2 miles downstream of Waldron Creek): This area includes the communities of Tanana and Rampart as well as the area near the Yukon River Bridge.

The current subsistence salmon fishing schedule in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C is open from 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays to 6:00 p.m. Sundays. Subsistence fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 4, Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C will remain open for 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Subsistence fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the portion of Subdistricts 5-C from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the mouth of Dall River. Subsistence fishermen outside of the permit area are encouraged to fill out their subsistence salmon catch calendars. Calendars and subsistence fishing permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at (907) 459-7274 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at (907) 455-1845.

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

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