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

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2015 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 29
Summer Announcement # 23, Yukon River District 6 Subsistence Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

A conservative management approach is being taken early in the season to protect the 2015 Chinook salmon run, which is anticipated to be weak. Consistent with management restrictions taken in the lower river, subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B is being restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets. The intent is to have gear restrictions already in place before the first pulse of Chinook salmon begin their spawning migration through this area while still providing an opportunity to fish for non-salmon species.

Fishermen are encouraged to avoid fishing in areas where Chinook salmon may be encountered. Fishery managers appreciate any subsistence harvest and fishing effort reports as they provide important information when considering early season management actions.

Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the regulatory marker at the mouth of Wood River, which includes the communities of Manley, Minto, and Nenana):

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B currently consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesdays and from 6:00 p.m.

Fridays until 12:00 noon Sundays, and fisherman may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, June 26, subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh size to conserve Chinook salmon. Fishermen may use fish wheels, however, fish wheels must be manned at all times of operation, or be equipped with a live box that is checked at least once every six hours. All Chinook salmon must be released to the water alive. Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule.

Old Minto Area:
Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open 5 days per week from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays and fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, June 26, subsistence fishing for salmon in the Old Minto Area will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh size to conserve Chinook salmon. Fishermen may use fish wheels, however, fish wheels must be manned at all times of operation, or be equipped with a live box that is checked at least once every six hours. All Chinook salmon must be released to the water alive. The Old Minto Area will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule.

Fishermen in Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, and the Old Minto Area should expect fishing closures on the first pulse of Chinook salmon when it begins migrating up the Tanana River.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a subsistence fishing permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana River drainage. Permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in Fairbanks. Subsistence fishermen fishing in the upper portion of Subdistrict 6-B from three miles upstream of the mouth of Totchaket Slough to Wood River are required to report their harvest catches to the department by **4:30 PM Thursday** each week by contacting the department at **(907) 459-7388**. When you call, please provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by species for that week.

Subdistrict 6-C Personal Use (from the regulatory marker at the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River):

Personal use salmon fishing is currently closed and will remain closed until further notice to conserve Chinook salmon.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at **1-866-479-7387** (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call **(907) 459-7387**.

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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