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Advisory Announcement

Released: July 22, 2021

Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist (907) 949-1320 Toll free fishing schedule and counts: (866) 479-7387

2021 Yukon River Salmon Fall Fishery Announcement #2 Coastal District and Districts 1-3 Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

Yukon River Chinook, summer and fall chum salmon runs continue to be poor resulting in subsistence fishing closures for these species. The department acknowledges the hardship and food security issues created by these fishing closures. In response to requests and suggestions from fishermen calling local field offices and weekly teleconferences hosted by the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association, the department will allow the use of selective gear to target salmon other than Chinook and Chum.

Subsistence Management Actions

Coastal District and Districts 1-3 including the Innoko River:

Effective Thursday, July 22, at 1:00 pm subsistence fishing is open to the use of dip nets and hook and line gear to target non-salmon and salmon species other than Chinook and chum salmon (such as pink, sockeye and coho salmon). All Chinook and chum salmon caught using selective gear must be released alive immediately.

Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used during subsistence salmon fishing closures to target non-salmon. However, due to the conservation concern for Chinook and chum salmon, 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets are restricted to a maximum length of 60-feet. Fishermen are reminded to use this gear in areas where non-salmon species are abundant to avoid incidentally harvesting Chinook and chum salmon.

In addition, other legal gear to take non-salmon species during subsistence salmon fishing closures in these districts include hand line, longline, fyke net, dip net, jigging gear, spear, and hook and line with a rod or pole.

The department would also like to thank fishermen for their continued cooperation during these times of conservation for Chinook and chum salmon.

Yukon Area advisory announcements and fish counts can be obtained by visiting <u>www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG</u>. To receive advisory announcements by email, sign up at <u>www.cfnews.adfg.alaska.gov</u>.

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Advisories 1, 2, 3, and 4, subsistence and commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Advisories. COVID-19 Health Advisories may be found here: <u>https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-advisories/</u>.



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 Yukon River Subsistence Fishery Manager, Holly Carroll, please call 351-3029.



Announcements will be shared on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG

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