

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



---

Contact:  
Eric Newland, Area Management Biologist  
Phone: (907) 949-1320  
Fax: (907) 949-1830

Lower Yukon Area Office  
P.O. Box 127  
Emmonak, AK 99581  
Date Issued: 7/10/2014

#### **2014 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 41**

#### **Summer Announcement # 30, District 6 Commercial Fishing Periods #1 and #2**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar summer chum salmon passage estimate through July 9 is approximately 1.8 million fish which is above the median of 1.7 million for this date. Based on the assessed abundance of summer chum salmon, commercial fishing opportunity is being allowed to target summer chum salmon in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B beginning Friday, July 11.

Regulations allow the department to open summer chum salmon directed commercial fishing periods in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B during times of Chinook salmon conservation with fish wheels only. Commercial fish wheels must be specially constructed, manned at all times during operations, and all Chinook salmon caught in the fish wheels must immediately be released to the water alive.

**Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B:** Commercial fishing will be open for two 42-hour fishing periods:

Period #1: 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 11, until 12:00 noon Sunday, July 13

Period #2: 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 14, until 12:00 noon Wednesday, July 16

The department is reminding fishermen in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B that commercial fish wheels must be constructed in a manner that includes:

- a) basket sides and bottoms consisting of soft mesh material similar to or made of seine web; and
- b) an adjustable or fixed slide or chute that consists of a smooth bottom and closed cell foam lined sides; and
- c) returns Chinook salmon immediately to the water.

These construction specifications for commercial fish wheels are intended to reduce the potential for injuring Chinook salmon while being released. Additionally, in 2014, the Board of Fisheries adopted a new regulation that authorizes the use of leads with commercial fish wheels, which aligned regulations with a long standing practice.

Commercial fishermen should coordinate with the buyer on a daily basis regarding scheduling deliveries. All salmon harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. All Chinook salmon released must be recorded on the fish ticket. Other fish species caught but not sold must also be recorded on the fish ticket. These commercial fishing periods do not affect current subsistence management actions and fishing schedules.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at **1-866-479-7387** or in Fairbanks call **459-7387**. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at 459-7274.

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

-end-