

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) 459-7274
Fax: (907) 459-7271

Upper Yukon Area Office
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
Date Issued: 7/31/2014

2014 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #55 **Summer Announcement #42, District 6 Commercial Fishing Periods #7 and #8** Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

Due to persistent high water levels sonar equipment is being used to generate daily estimates of total salmon passage at the Chena River. An analysis will be conducted post season to estimate total passage by species and assess escapement for Chinook and summer chum salmon. An aerial survey of the Chena River was recently conducted in which survey counts and species composition was found to be promising. The survey information appears to corroborate with the preliminary sonar estimates, indicating that the summer chum salmon run is on track to achieve adequate escapement.

Based on the assessed abundance of summer chum salmon, further commercial fishing opportunity is being allowed to target summer chum salmon in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B.

This announcement opens two 42-hour commercial salmon fishing periods in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B. The cumulative harvest through July 31 is approximately 5,900 summer chum salmon with a reported 190 Chinook salmon released alive and 6 Chinook salmon caught but not sold.

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

Period #7: 6:00 p.m. Friday, August 1, until 12:00 noon Sunday, August 3

Period #8: 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 4, until 12:00 noon Wednesday, August 6

Commercial fishermen may use either set gillnets or fish wheels to target summer chum salmon. Gillnets are restricted to a mesh size of 6 inches or less. Commercial fishermen are reminded that they should coordinate with the buyer on a daily basis regarding scheduling deliveries. The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited during these commercial fishing periods and fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or retain them for subsistence purposes.

All salmon harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. All Chinook salmon, either released or caught but not sold, 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 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

-end-