

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



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**2015 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #20  
Summer Announcement #15, Yukon River District 1 and District 2 Commercial and  
Subsistence Fishing Schedules  
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area**

The preseason outlook for the 2015 summer chum salmon run is projected to be 1.8 to 2.4 million fish and is anticipated to provide for escapement, a normal subsistence harvest level, and a commercially harvestable surplus range of 800,000 to 1,400,000 fish. Initial management of the summer chum salmon run will be based on this preseason outlook. However, management will continue to be cautious in order to protect the overlapping, weak Chinook salmon run expected in 2015.

Concurrent subsistence and commercial fishing periods with dip net and beach seine gear were opened for three periods in District 1 starting June 14 and for three periods in District 2 starting June 15. Chinook salmon are required to be released immediately when caught in dip net and beach seine gear. Summer chum salmon catch rates in these commercial periods were relatively low, however, it is still early in the summer chum salmon run. On average, the first quarter point of the summer chum salmon run passes the Lower Yukon Test Fishery approximately June 18–June 19 and the Pilot Station sonar project on June 22.

Subsistence salmon fishing with dip nets and beach seines only in Districts 1 and 2 will continue to occur concurrently with the commercial fishing periods. Saturday, June 20, is currently scheduled for subsistence salmon fishing only. Both commercial and subsistence fishermen are required to release Chinook salmon alive from dip net and beach seine gear. 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 and Commercial Fishing Schedule:****District 1 (including the Black River) Subsistence:**

Subsistence fishing for summer chum salmon is currently open from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight Tuesday, June 16, with dip net and beach seine gear only.

Effective 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesday, June 17, subsistence salmon fishing will reopen on the following schedule with dip net and beach seine gear:

- Wednesday, June 17, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight
- Thursday, June 18, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight
- Friday, June 19, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight
- Saturday, June 20, from 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 a.m. midnight

All Chinook salmon caught in dip net and beach seine gear must be released alive immediately.

**District 1 (including the Black River) Commercial:**

Commercial summer chum salmon fishing in District 1 will open for three commercial fishing periods beginning 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesday, June 17, with beach seine and dip net gear only. Dip net mesh size is restricted to 4.5-inch or smaller. Beach seine mesh size is restricted to 4-inch or smaller. Beach seines must be set from the beach and hauled to the beach. District 1 will be on the following commercial fishing schedule:

- Wednesday, June 17, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight
- Thursday, June 18, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight
- Friday, June 19, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 12:00 a.m. midnight

These will be 12-hour commercial fishing periods that are open concurrent with subsistence fishing times. All Chinook salmon caught in dip net and beach seine gear must be released alive immediately. Chinook salmon released alive from dip net and beach seine gear must be recorded on a fish ticket.

**District 2 Subsistence:**

Subsistence fishing for summer chum salmon is currently open on the following schedule with dip net and beach seine gear only:

- Tuesday, June 16, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 17, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.

Effective 12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, June 18, subsistence salmon fishing will open on the following schedule:

- Thursday, June 18, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.
- Friday, June 19, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 20, from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

All Chinook salmon caught in dip net and beach seine gear must be released alive immediately.

**District 2 Commercial:**

Commercial summer chum salmon fishing in District 2 is currently open on the following schedule with beach seine and dip net gear only:

- Tuesday, June 16, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 17, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.

Commercial summer chum salmon fishing in District 2 will open for two additional commercial fishing periods beginning 12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, June 18, with beach seine and dip net gear only. Dip net mesh size is restricted to 4.5-inch or smaller. Beach seine mesh size is restricted to 4-inch or smaller. Beach seines must be set from the beach and hauled to the beach. District 2 will be on the following commercial schedule:

- Thursday, June 18, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.
- Friday, June 19, from 12:00 p.m. noon until 10:00 p.m.

These will be 10-hour commercial fishing periods that are open concurrent with subsistence fishing times. All Chinook salmon caught in dip net and beach seine gear must be released alive immediately. Chinook salmon released alive from dip net and beach seine gear must be recorded on a fish ticket.

Summer chum salmon catches and incidental catches and releases of Chinook salmon from these commercial periods in Districts 1 and 2 will be evaluated to determine additional commercial openings. An announcement will be made on Saturday, June 20 regarding further subsistence and commercial salmon fishing openings with gear types that allow the release of Chinook salmon.

The requirement to release Chinook salmon from dip net and beach seine gear will be strictly enforced. Fishermen are reminded that great care must be taken to assure Chinook salmon are released unharmed so that they can swim the long distance upriver and spawn successfully.

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**.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADF&G office in Emmonak at 949-1320.

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

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