

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



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**2015 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 43
Summer Announcement # 36, Yukon River Subdistrict 4-A Subsistence Fishing
Schedule**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The 2015 summer chum salmon run is projected to be approximately 1.3 to 1.5 million fish. Although the run is currently tracking below the preseason outlook, it is still average in size and continuing to build in the lower river.

As of July 1, the cumulative summer chum passage past the sonar project is approximately 1 million fish. Two large groups of summer chum salmon, estimated to have approximately 119,500 and 127,300 fish, passed the sonar project on June 27 and June 28, respectively. These two groups of summer chum salmon are expected to be in the lower portion of Subdistrict 4-A starting July 5.

In an effort to provide subsistence summer chum salmon harvest during this time of Chinook salmon conservation, a short four hour gillnet subsistence only fishing period with 6-inch or smaller mesh size is scheduled in the lower portion of Subdistrict 4-A on Monday, July 6, to target summer chum salmon. Additionally, the requirement to man fish wheels or to use fish wheels equipped with a live box is lifted during this short four hour opening. Fishermen are encouraged to avoid fishing in areas where Chinook salmon may be encountered. However, Chinook salmon caught in gillnet gear and fish wheels during this opening may be retained for subsistence use.

Subdistrict 4-A Lower Subsistence 6-inch Gillnet Period:

Subsistence salmon fishing for summer chum salmon is currently open in Subdistrict 4-A for 24 hours a day, seven days a week with dip net and live-release fish wheels only.

Effective at 5:00 p.m. Monday, July 6, subsistence salmon fishing in the lower portion of Subdistrict 4-A will close.

Effective at 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 6, subsistence salmon fishing will reopen in the lower portion of Subdistrict 4-A for one 4-hour period with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels to target summer chum salmon. The period is as follows:

- Lower portion of Subdistrict 4-A, Monday, July 6, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Dip nets may not be used during this 4-hour period. Chinook salmon incidentally caught in the 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets and fish wheels may be kept for subsistence purposes.

After the close of this four hour subsistence fishing period, subsistence salmon fishing will return to the previous schedule of 24 hours a day, seven days per week with dip net and live-release fish wheels only beginning 11:00 p.m. Monday, July 6, in the lower portion of Subdistrict 4-A. All Chinook salmon caught in dip nets and fish wheels must be released to the water alive.

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 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at 455-1849.

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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