

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



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**2015 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 52
Summer Announcement # 45, Yukon River District 3 Subsistence Fishing
Schedule**

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2015 summer chum salmon run is projected to be approximately 1.4 to 1.6 million fish. Although the run is currently tracking below the preseason outlook, it is still average in size.

As of July 5, four pulses of summer chum salmon have passed the sonar project near Pilot Station. To date, the cumulative summer chum salmon passage past the sonar project is approximately 1,203,000 fish. A group of approximately 119,000 summer chum salmon passed the sonar project starting July 1 and should be in District 3 starting July 5.

Therefore, in an effort to provide subsistence summer chum salmon harvest during this time of Chinook salmon conservation, a six-hour gillnet subsistence only fishing period with 6-inch or smaller mesh size is scheduled for District 3 on Tuesday, July 7, to target summer chum salmon. Fishermen are encouraged to avoid fishing in areas where Chinook salmon may be encountered. However, Chinook salmon caught in gillnet gear during this opening may be retained for subsistence use.

District 3 Subsistence 6-inch Gillnet Period:

Subsistence salmon fishing for summer chum salmon is currently open in District 3 for 24 hours a day, seven days a week with dip net gear only.

Effective 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 7, subsistence salmon fishing with dip net gear will close.

Subsistence salmon fishing will reopen in District 3 for one 6-hour period from 6:00 p.m. until 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, July 7, with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to target summer chum salmon. Chinook salmon incidentally caught in the 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets may be kept for subsistence purposes. Fishermen are reminded that all Chinook salmon caught and retained for subsistence during this opening must be marked by removing both tips of the tail fin. The tips must be removed before concealing the Chinook salmon from plain view or before transferring the salmon from the fishing site.

At 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, July 8, subsistence salmon fishing will continue on the previous schedule of 24 hours a day, seven days per week with dip net gear only. All Chinook salmon caught in dip nets 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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