

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



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**2015 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #54
Summer Announcement #46, Yukon River District 2 Subsistence and Commercial 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. The cumulative passage at the sonar project near Pilot Station as of July 6 was approximately 1,241,000 summer chum salmon.

The Chinook salmon run is currently tracking below the preseason projection of 118,000–140,000 fish. The cumulative passage at the sonar project near Pilot Station as of July 6 was approximately 110,000 Chinook salmon. At this time, the majority of the Chinook salmon run has migrated out of District 2. Based on the historical average run timing, the Chinook salmon run is 90% complete at the sonar project near Pilot Station.

A six-hour commercial gillnet fishing period is being provided in District 2 on Wednesday, July 8, to target summer chum salmon with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size. Fishermen are encouraged to avoid fishing in areas where Chinook salmon are likely to be encountered.

Additionally, a subsistence gillnet fishing schedule is being established for the remainder of the summer season in District 2. Beginning Thursday, July 9, subsistence salmon fishing will be open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets except around each commercial fishing period.

All Chinook salmon retained for subsistence use during the commercial gillnet opening must be recorded on a fish ticket as kept but not sold. Additionally, any Chinook salmon retained for subsistence use must have both tips of their tail fin cut off before being removed from plain view or transferred from the fishing site.

District 2 Commercial Fishing Schedule:

Commercial salmon fishing is currently closed in District 2.

Effective 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 8, commercial salmon fishing will open on the following schedule with 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets:

- Wednesday, July 8, from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

The dip net and beach seine fishing season is now being discontinued in District 2.

The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited. Commercial gillnet fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. Chinook salmon retained from commercial gillnet gear must be recorded on a fish ticket as retained but not sold.

An announcement will be made on Thursday, July 9, regarding further commercial salmon fishing openings to target summer chum salmon.

District 2 Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently closed in District 2.

Effective 12:01 a.m. Thursday, July 9, subsistence salmon fishing will be open with 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets 24 hours a day, seven days per week except for six hours before, during, and six hours after a commercial fishing period.

Fishermen are reminded that all Chinook salmon caught and retained for subsistence during gillnet openings 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.

Fishermen may use 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets not exceeding 60 feet in length to target non-salmon species during subsistence closures.

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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