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

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2015 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 5
Fall Announcement # 5, Yukon River District 2 Commercial Period 1
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2015 fall chum salmon preseason run projection, based on the summer chum to fall chum salmon relationship, is for a run size between 700,000 and 800,000 fish. This level of abundance should be sufficient to provide for escapement, an above average subsistence harvest, and a surplus available for commercial and personal use purposes. Both summer and fall chum salmon are currently entering the river. Commercial fishing in the lower river at this transition time would harvest a mixture of both stocks.

District 2 Commercial Schedule:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 2 on Wednesday, July 22 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. This will be a 4-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh size.

The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited. Therefore, 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.

District 2 Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is open during the fall season 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches, except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period. In District 2, subsistence

salmon fishing will close at 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 21, and reopen at 1:00 a.m. Thursday, July 23.

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

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 and 459-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks 1-866-479-7387). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or the Fairbanks office at 459-7274. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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