

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2015 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 21

Fall Announcement # 20, Yukon River Subdistrict 6-C Personal Use Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper 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.

The estimated fall chum salmon passage at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station through August 9 is 245,300 fish, which is slightly below the historical median of 276,000 fish for that date. A first pulse of approximately 100,000 fall chum salmon finished passing the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station on July 22 and should be near Fairbanks on August 13. Consistent with transitioning to fall season management as fall chum salmon migrate upriver, fishermen in Subdistrict 6-C will be able to use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Personal Use Schedule:

Subdistricts 6-C (from the regulatory marker at the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River, which includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha):

Currently, personal use salmon fishing is open on its regulatory schedule consisting of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 12:00 p.m. noon Sundays and from 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesdays. Personal use fishing is restricted to live-release fish wheels only. Fishermen are required to release all Chinook salmon alive.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Monday, August 10, fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less. Personal use salmon fishing will remain on its regulatory schedule.

A personal use permit is required to harvest salmon in Subdistrict 6-C. A permit can be obtained from the Fairbanks Fish and Game office. Personal use fishermen should keep track of daily harvest information and record this information on the reverse side of the personal use permit on the day fishing occurred. **Permittees are required to report their harvest by 4:30 p.m. Thursday each week by contacting the department at (907) 459-7388.** Fishermen should report their name, permit number, and daily catch by species. Fishermen are also reminded that any salmon taken under the authority of a personal use permit must have both tips of the tail fin removed before the salmon is concealed or transferred from the fishing site.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at **1-866-479-7387** or in Fairbanks call **(907) 459-7387**. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADF&G office in Fairbanks at 459-7274 or in Emmonak at 949-1320.

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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