

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2015 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 25

Fall Announcement # 23, Yukon River District 2 Commercial Period 7

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.

The estimated passage of fall chum salmon at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station through August 14 is 354,400 fish, which is above the historical median of 337,200 fish for that date. The first pulse of fall chum salmon entered the Yukon River on July 17 and was approximately 100,000 fish. Fall chum salmon entry into Yukon River has been relatively steady, with a couple of smaller groups of approximately 40,000 and 31,000 fish. A second pulse of both fall chum and coho salmon started entering the river August 10 and is currently passing the mainstem sonar.

District 2 Commercial Schedule:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 2 on Sunday, August 16 from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. This will be a 4-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh size.

Preliminary reports from the District 2 commercial opening on August 12 indicate a harvest of 11,170 fall chum and 4,239 coho salmon from 132 permit holders. The preliminary cumulative commercial harvest for District 2 is 37,483 fall chum and 6,919 coho salmon.

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 3:00 a.m. Sunday, August 16, and reopen at 7:00 a.m. Monday, August 17.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 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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