

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2016 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 28

Districts 1 and 2 Commercial Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

As of June 21, the sonar project near Pilot Station has estimated a cumulative passage of approximately 91,100 Chinook salmon and a cumulative passage of approximately 723,000 summer chum salmon. These estimates are well above average for both species for this date and indicate we are likely within our pre-season projection ranges of 130,000–175,000 for Chinook salmon and 1.3 to 1.8 million summer chum salmon.

Commercial dip net and beach seine opportunity is being provided in Districts 1 and 2 to target summer chum salmon. All Chinook salmon caught in dip net and beach seine gear must be released to the water alive.

Two subsistence salmon gillnet periods have been announced in Districts 1 and 2. Subsistence salmon fishing will be closed following these gillnet openings until further notice. However, subsistence fishermen should be prepared for additional subsistence openings. Subsistence fishermen are reminded they can use 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets not exceeding 60 feet in length to target non-salmon species during subsistence salmon closures.

Management Actions

District 1 (including the Black River) Commercial Fishing Schedule:

Effective 3:00 p.m. Friday, June 24, commercial salmon fishing will be open for one 12-hour period with dip nets and beach seines:

- 3:00 p.m. Friday, June 24, until 3:00 a.m. Saturday, June 25

All Chinook salmon are required to be released alive from dip net and beach seine gear and must be recorded on a fish ticket. This requirement will be strictly enforced. Fishermen are reminded

that great care must be taken to ensure Chinook salmon are released unharmed so that they can swim the long distance upriver and spawn successfully.

District 2 Commercial Fishing Schedule:

Effective 3:00 p.m. Thursday, June 23, commercial salmon fishing will be open for three 12-hour periods with dip nets and beach seines:

- 3:00 p.m. Thursday, June 23, until 3:00 a.m. Friday, June 24
- 3:00 p.m. Friday, June 24, until 3:00 a.m. Saturday, June 25
- 3:00 p.m. Saturday, June 25, until 3:00 a.m. Sunday, June 26

All Chinook salmon are required to be released alive from dip net and beach seine gear and must be recorded on a fish ticket. This requirement will be strictly enforced. Fishermen are reminded that great care must be taken to ensure Chinook salmon are released unharmed so that they can swim the long distance upriver and spawn successfully.

Dip net mesh size is restricted to 4.5-inch or smaller. Beach seines must be set from the beach and hauled to the beach. Fishermen are reminded that beach seine gear may not exceed 150 fathoms in length, 100 meshes in depth, and 4-inches stretched measure. Beach seines may not be constructed of monofilament webbing.

The subsistence and commercial fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at **(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 (907) 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak at (907) 949-1798.

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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