

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Scott Kelley, Director*



Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Holly Carroll, Area Management Biologist  
Sabrina Garcia, Asst. Area Management Biologist  
Lower Yukon Area Office  
P.O. Box 127  
Emmonak, AK 99581  
Phone: (907) 949-1320  
Fax: (907) 949-1830

U.S. Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Federal Subsistence Board  
Karen P. Clark, Acting Regional Director  
Gene Peltola, Asst. Regional Director Subsistence  
Fred Bue, Yukon Area Inseason Manager  
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office  
101 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rm 110  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Phone: (907) 455-1849 or 1-800-267-3997  
Fax (907) 455-1853

Date Issued: June 27, 2016

#### **2016 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 42**

#### **District 6 Subsistence Fishing Schedule**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

As of June 26, the sonar project near Pilot Station has estimated a cumulative passage of approximately 126,000 Chinook salmon. This cumulative passage estimate is well above average for this date, but below average for years with early run timing. However, all indications are that we are likely within our pre-season projection range of 130,000–175,000 Chinook salmon based on early run timing.

The first pulse of Chinook salmon passed the sonar project near Pilot Station from June 11 to June 14. Based on average swimming speed, this first pulse should be near Manley starting June 27. Consistent with a conservative management strategy, subsistence salmon fishing is being restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets in District 6 to conserve the first pulse of Chinook salmon. This gear restriction allows for the harvest of summer chum salmon while minimizing the impact to the larger Chinook salmon. This gear restriction will be in place until further notice.

#### **Subsistence Fishing Schedule:**

**Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B** (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the regulatory marker at the mouth of Wood River, which includes the communities of Manley, Minto, and Nenana):

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B currently consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesdays and from 6:00 p.m.

Fridays until 12:00 noon Sundays, and fisherman may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels to conserve Chinook salmon. Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in the Kantishna River will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels to conserve Chinook salmon. The Kantishna River will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule of 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

**Old Minto Area:**

Subsistence salmon fishing is currently open five days per week from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays and fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, subsistence fishing for salmon in the Old Minto Area will be restricted to gillnets that are 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels to conserve Chinook salmon. The Old Minto Area will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a subsistence fishing permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana River drainage. Permits are available from the ADF&G office in Fairbanks. Subsistence fishermen fishing in the upper portion of Subdistrict 6-B, from three miles upstream of the mouth of Totchaket Slough to Wood River, are required to report their harvest catches to the department by **4:30 PM Thursday** each week by contacting the department at **(907) 459-7388**. When you call, please provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by species for that week.

**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):

Personal use salmon fishing currently consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Friday until 12:00 p.m. noon Sunday and from 6:00 p.m. Monday until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesday. Fishermen may use 6-inch or smaller mesh set-gillnets, dip nets, and live-release fish wheels. Fish wheel and dip net fishermen must release Chinook salmon alive.

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 Fairbanks at 459-7274 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak at 949-1798.

-end-