

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2016 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 56

District 6 Subsistence and Personal Use Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

As of July 6, the sonar project near Pilot Station has estimated a cumulative passage of approximately 164,000 Chinook salmon. This cumulative passage estimate is below average for years with early run timing. However, a run size of this magnitude is likely to meet escapement goals and provide for a limited subsistence harvest.

Four pulses of Chinook salmon have passed the sonar project near Pilot Station. Based on average swimming speed, the third pulse should be nearing the Salcha River starting July 11. Escapement projects on the Chena and Salcha rivers have been in operation since June 26. Although still early in the season, sonar counts at the projects are promising. Therefore, subsistence salmon fishing restrictions are being lifted in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B. Additionally, personal use fishing restrictions are also being lifted in Subdistrict 6-C. Subsistence and personal use fishermen may use 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

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 is open for 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, with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 11, subsistence fishermen in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B, including the Kantishna River and the Old Minto Area, may use 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels to target salmon.

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will remain on their regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule of two 42-hour periods per week.

The Kantishna River will remain on its regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule of 24 hours a day, seven days per week.

The Old Minto area will remain on its regulatory schedule of five days per week from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays.

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 salmon 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.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 15, personal use fishermen in Subdistricts 6-C may use 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels to target salmon. Chinook salmon may be retained from gillnets and fish wheels. The live-release fish wheel and dip net fishery is being discontinued in Subdistrict 6-C effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 15.

The subsistence 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 Fairbanks at 459-7274 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at 455-1849.

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