

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2016 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 58

District 6 Commercial Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

As of July 10, the cumulative passage of summer chum salmon by the sonar project near Pilot Station is approximately 1,714,000 fish. Based on sonar counts and current commercial harvests, the 2016 summer chum salmon run has exceeded the preseason projection of 1.8 million fish. The cumulative passage of Chinook salmon at the sonar was approximately 169,000 fish, which is below average based on early year run timing. However, a run size of this magnitude is likely to meet escapement goals and provide for a limited subsistence harvest. Escapement projects on the Chena and Salcha rivers have been in operation since June 26. Sonar counts of Chinook salmon at both escapement projects are promising.

Based on the assessed abundance of summer chum salmon, commercial fishing opportunity is being provided to target summer chum salmon beginning Monday, July 11, in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B and beginning Friday, July 15, in Subdistrict 6-C. Fishermen may use 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels in the commercial fishery to align gear types with those being used in the subsistence and personal use fisheries. These commercial periods will be concurrent with the subsistence and personal use fishing schedules in District 6. Fish wheels are not required to be manned. Chinook salmon may not be sold; however, any Chinook salmon caught may be kept for personal use and must be recorded on a fish ticket.

District 6 Commercial Fishing Schedule:

Subdistrict 6-A and 6-B:

Effective at 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 11, commercial fishing will be open for two 42-hour fishing periods per week on the following schedule with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels:

- 6:00 p.m. Mondays, until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesdays
- 6:00 p.m. Fridays, until 12:00 p.m. noon Sundays

Commercial fishermen should coordinate with the buyer on a daily basis regarding scheduling deliveries. All salmon harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. All Chinook salmon kept for personal use must also be recorded on the fish ticket. Other fish species caught but not sold must also be recorded on the fish ticket. Processors, catcher-sellers, or direct marketers should notify the department of their intent to operate by contacting the Fairbanks office at 459-7274.

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):

Effective 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 15, commercial fishing will be open for two 42-hour fishing periods per week on the following schedule with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels:

- 6:00 p.m. Mondays, until 12:00 p.m. noon Wednesdays
- 6:00 p.m. Fridays, until 12:00 p.m. noon Sundays

Commercial fishermen should coordinate with the buyer on a daily basis regarding scheduling deliveries. All salmon harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. All Chinook salmon kept for personal use from gillnets and fish wheels must also be recorded on the fish ticket. Other fish species caught but not sold must also be recorded on the fish ticket. Processors, catcher-sellers, or direct marketers should notify the department of their intent to operate by contacting the Fairbanks office at 459-7274.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at **(866) 479-7387** or, in Fairbanks, call **459-7387**.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at 459-7274.

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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