

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**2016 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 3
Yukon River District 1 Commercial Period 1**

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area
Emergency Orders # 2 and 3

The 2016 fall chum salmon preseason run projection, based on the summer chum to fall chum salmon relationship, is for a run size between 800,000 and 900,000 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. A mixture of both summer chum and fall chum salmon are currently entering the Yukon River. Commercial fishing in the lower river at this time will likely harvest a mixture of both stocks.

District 1 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 1, including the **Set Net Only Area** (see attached map), on Monday, July 18 from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh size.

A reminder to District 1 fishermen that the boundaries of District 1 were expanded during the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Board of Fisheries meeting in January of 2016 (see attached map). District 1 now extends from Apoon Pass (north mouth) to Point Romanof, and commercial fishermen may now commercial fish up to 3 nautical miles seaward from any grassland bank. Commercial fishing is closed within 500 yards of the mouth of the Pastolik and Pastoliak rivers. The boundaries of the **Set Net Only Area** remain unchanged.

The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited. Commercial gillnet fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. Chinook salmon retained from commercial gillnet gear must be recorded on a fish ticket as retained but not sold.

District 1 Subsistence Fishing:

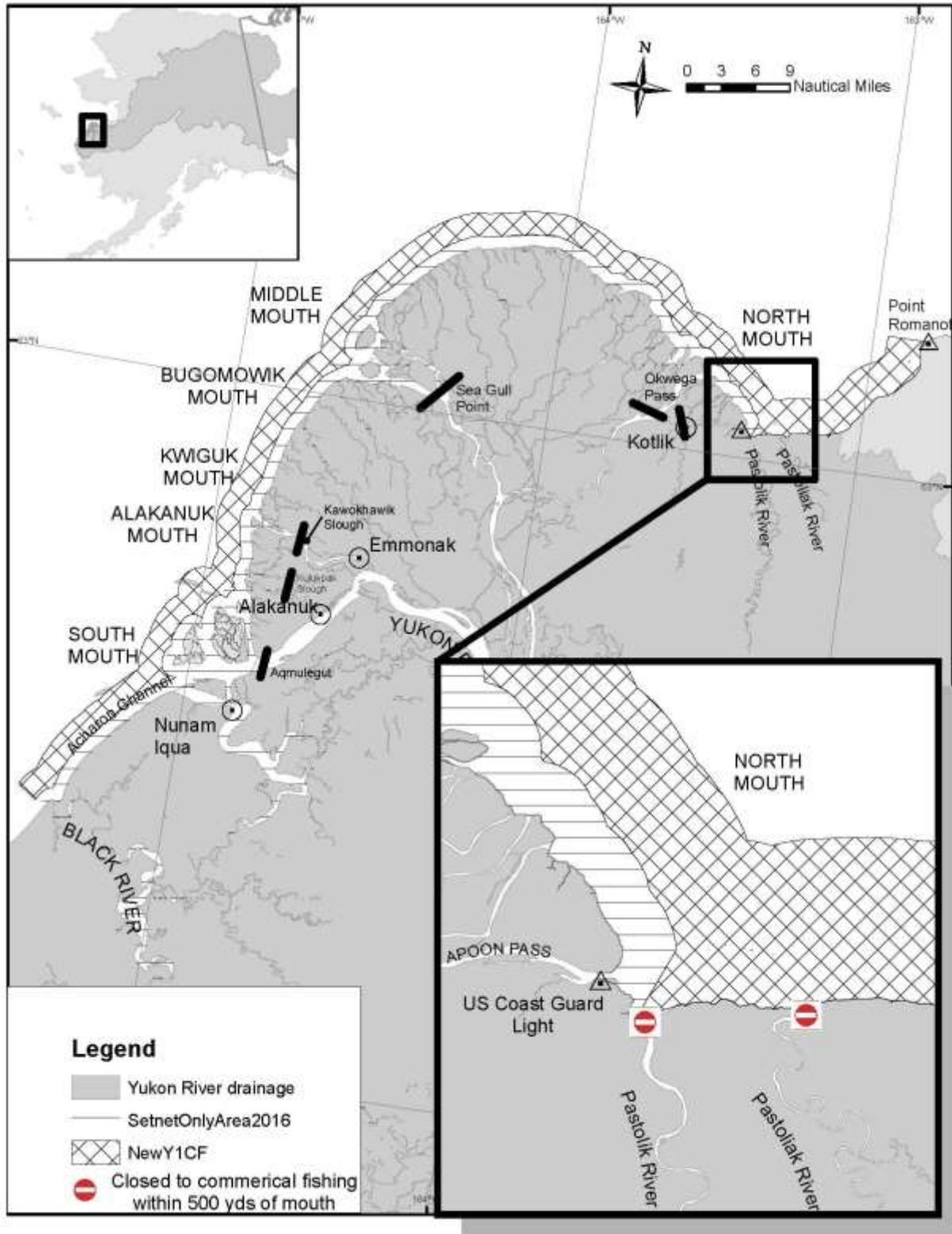
Subsistence salmon fishing in District 1 is open during the fall season 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches, except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period. In District 1, subsistence salmon fishing will close at 3:00 a.m. Monday, July 18, and reopen at 12:00 noon Tuesday, July 19.

Fishermen may use 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets to target non-salmon species during subsistence salmon closures.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day, toll free at 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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Map of District 1 Set Net Only Area and new commercial fishing boundaries along the coast.