

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2016 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 33 **Yukon River District 1 Commercial Period 12**

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area
Emergency Order # 29

The 2016 fall chum salmon run projection, based on inseason assessment, is for a run size greater than 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. The estimated fall chum salmon passage at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station through August 17 is 602,800 fish, which is above the historical median of 414,900 fish for that date.

District 1 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in the **Set Net Only Area** of District Y-1 on Thursday, August 18 from 12:00 p.m. noon until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period for the **Set Net Only Area** with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

The remainder of District Y-1 will be open to commercial fishing on Thursday, August 18 from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

Commercial Fishing Reminders:

- Fishermen in the Set Net Only Area must be registered with the department. There is a 72 hour waiting period to transfer in or out of the Set Net Only Area.
- Drifting is not allowed in the Set Net Only Area.
- Fishermen may only sell fish in the district where they are caught during this concurrent fishing period today.

- In the Kotlik area, commercial fishing is closed in the Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers and is closed within 500 yards of the mouths of these rivers.

Verbal reports from the District 1 commercial opening on August 14 indicate a preliminary harvest of 26,549 fall chum and 7,675 coho salmon from 212 deliveries. The cumulative commercial harvest in District 1 to date is 124,943 fall chum and 13,711 coho salmon.

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. **For this short notice period, subsistence salmon fishing in District 1 will close at 12:00 p.m. noon Thursday, August 18, and reopen at 9:00 a.m. Friday, August 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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