ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelly, Director



Contact:

Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist

Phone: (907) 949-1320 Fax: (907) 949-1830

Lower Yukon Area Field Office P.O. Box 127 Emmonak, Alaska 99581

Date Issued: 8/20/16

2016 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 35 Yukon River District 2 Commercial Period 12

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area Emergency Order # 31

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 19 is 772,300 fish, which is above the historical median of 494,500 fish for that date.

District 2 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 2 on Sunday, August 21 from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This will be an 8-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh size.

Verbal reports from the District 2 commercial opening on August 18 indicate a preliminary harvest of 34,267 fall chum and 7,629 coho salmon from 154 deliveries. Verbal reports from the District 2 commercial opening on August 19 indicate a preliminary harvest of 16,053 fall chum and 2,995 coho salmon from 104 deliveries. The preliminary cumulative commercial harvest in District 2 is approximately 151,985 fall chum and 15,846 coho salmon as of August 20.

District 2 Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 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 commercial fishing periods. In District 2, subsistence salmon

fishing will close at 1:00 a.m. Sunday, August 21, and reopen at 9:00 a.m. Monday, August 22. 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.