ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2017 STIKINE AND TAKU RIVERS CHINOOK SALMON FORECASTS

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following information concerning the preseason forecasts for Chinook salmon returning to the Stikine and Taku Rivers in 2017.

The **2017** preseason terminal run size forecast for Stikine River large Chinook salmon is **18,300** fish. A preseason terminal run forecast of this size does not provide an Allowable Catch (AC) for either the U.S. or Canada as the forecast is below the midpoint of the Escapement Goal Range (EGR) of 14,000 to 28,000 fish and **no directed fisheries will occur in early May.** Inseason terminal run size estimates may be produced starting late May of 2017, but it is unlikely any directed Chinook salmon fisheries will occur in District 8 in 2017.

The **2017** preseason terminal run size forecast for Taku River large Chinook salmon is **13,300** fish. A preseason terminal run forecast of this size does not provide an AC for either the U.S. or Canada as the forecast is below the lower end of the EGR of 19,000 to 36,000 fish and **no directed fisheries will occur in early May**. Inseason terminal run size estimates may be produced starting late May of 2017, but it is unlikely any directed Chinook salmon fisheries will occur in District 11 in 2017.

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