

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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner
Scott Kelley, Director



Contact:
Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist
Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 459-7217
Fax: (907) 459-7271

Upper Yukon Area Office
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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2017 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 52
District 1 Commercial Periods 17 & 18
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2017 coho salmon run projection, based on inseason assessment, is for a run size of over 300,000 fish. The estimated coho salmon passage at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station through August 30 is 136,100 fish which is slightly above the historical median of 133,000 fish for that date. The Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association will continue to operate the Lower Yukon River Test Fishery through September 10 and the Mountain Village Test Fishery will continue to operate through September 10. The preliminary cumulative commercial harvest in District 1 and 2 combined through August 30 is approximately 116,550 coho salmon. At this time, the coho salmon run appears to be average and a surplus is available for a limited commercial harvest in addition to that taken incidentally in the fall chum salmon directed commercial fishery. In accordance with the Yukon River Coho Salmon Management Plan, the coho salmon directed commercial fishing season will open in District 1 on September 1. By regulation, the coho salmon directed commercial fishing season ends after September 10.

District 1 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing in District 1 will open on the following dates with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh size.

- Sunday, September 3 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 6 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

District 1 Subsistence Fishing:

Subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets, except for closures before, during, and after commercial fishing periods. For these commercial periods subsistence salmon fishing in District 1 will be **closed** on the following dates and times:

- Sunday, September 3 from noon to 10:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 6 from noon to 10:00 p.m.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures in District 1, the Pastolik and Pastoliak rivers near Apoon Pass are closed to all gillnet fishing, including gillnets with 4 inch mesh or less, including 500 yards around the mouths. These 2 rivers are also closed to commercial fishing, including 500 yards around the mouths. Subsistence fishermen fishing outside of these areas 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 Fairbanks office at 907-459-7274.

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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