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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Holly Carroll, Area Management Biologist Lower Yukon Area Office P.O. Box 127. Emmonak, AK 99581 Phone: (907) 949-1320 Toll free fishing schedule hotline: (866) 479-7387 Fishing schedule hotline in Fairbanks: 459-7387 Date Issued: June 29, 2018 U.S. Department of Interior Fish & Wildlife Service; Federal Subsistence Board Greg Siekaneic, Regional Director Gene Peltola, Asst. Regional Director Subsistence Fred Bue, Yukon Area Inseason Manager Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office Phone: (907) 455-1849 or (800) 267-3997

2018 Yukon River Salmon Fishery News Release # 31 District 6 Subsistence and Personal Use Fishing Schedules Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Chinook salmon abundance estimates are well below average at the Pilot Station sonar to date. This news release puts Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, and 6-C on a reduced salmon fishing schedule and restricts gillnets to 6-inch or smaller mesh. The fishing times have been changed as a response to feedback from fishermen.

Subsistence Management Actions:

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the regulatory marker at the mouth of Wood River, which includes the communities of Manley, Minto, and Nenana)

As previously announced, fishing is open for a **21-hour** period with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets from 6 p.m. Friday, June 29 and will close 3 p.m. Saturday, June 30.

Effective 6 p.m. Monday, July 2, fishing will reopen for two **24-hour** periods per week with **6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets** and fish wheels from:

6 p.m. Mondays to 6 p.m. Tuesdays

6 p.m. Fridays to 6 p.m. Saturdays

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fishing for non-salmon species is allowed. However, only gillnets with 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used.

A subsistence fishing permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana River drainage below the Wood River. Permits are available from the ADF&G office in Fairbanks. Subsistence salmon fishermen in the upper portion of Subdistrict 6-B, from three miles upstream of the mouth of Totchaket Slough to Wood River, are required to report their harvest catches to the department by 4:30 p.m. Thursday each week by reporting online at <u>www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/PU/</u> or by

calling (907) 459-7388. When you call, please provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by species for that week.

Kantishna River:

The Kantishna River is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week. Fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Old Minto Area:

Effective **6 p.m. Friday, June 29** subsistence fishing is on the regulatory schedule of five days per week from:

6 p.m. Fridays until 6 p.m. Wednesdays

Fishermen may use fish wheels or gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or less.

Upper Tanana Area (the Tanana River from the confluence with the mouth of Volkmar River on the north bank and the mouth of the Johnson River on the south bank upstream to the Tanana River headwaters):

Subsistence fishing is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets and fish wheels. A subsistence fishing permit is required in the Upper Tanana River Drainage.

Personal Use Fishing:

Subdistrict 6-C (from the regulatory marker at the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the Salcha River, which includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha):

As previously announced, Personal Use fishing is open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets for a **21-hour** period from 6 p.m. Friday, June 29 and will close 3 p.m. Saturday, June 30.

Effective 6 p.m. Monday, July 2, fishing will reopen for two **24-hour** periods per week with <u>6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets</u> and fish wheels from:

6 p.m. Mondays to 6 p.m. Tuesdays

6 p.m. Fridays to 6 p.m. Saturdays

A personal use salmon fishing permit and sport fish license are required to fish in Subdistrict 6-C. Fishermen are required to report their harvest catches to the department by **4:30 p.m. Thursday** each week by reporting online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/sf/PU/ or by calling (907) **459-7388**. When you call, please provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by species for that week.

News releases and fishery information will be shared on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG

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