

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2019 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 10

District 2 Commercial Period 2 and Subsistence Schedule

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2019 fall chum salmon preseason projection, based on the relationship between summer chum to fall chum salmon run sizes, is for a run size of 625,000 fall chum salmon with a range of 500,000 to 750,000 fish. Run sizes within this range are expected to provide for escapement and subsistence use needs. In accordance with the *Yukon River Drainage Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan*, a threshold run size of 550,000 fish is necessary to open a fall chum salmon directed commercial fishery. Commercial fishing is allowed on the surplus above that level.

Many summer chum salmon are still entering the river. A commercial period at this time would harvest mostly summer chum salmon. After this period, most chum salmon entering Yukon River will likely be fall chum salmon. The department will monitor and assess the fall chum salmon run. Commercial fishing will resume once the 2019 fall chum run is projected to meet the 550,000 fish threshold and a surplus is available. Commercial fishermen should stand by for announcements regarding further commercial fishing.

District 2 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 2, from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Saturday, August 3. This will be a 5-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size.

Chinook salmon may be sold during these commercial openings. All Chinook salmon sold or retained for subsistence during commercial openings must be recorded on a fish ticket.

District 2 Subsistence Salmon Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is open 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. **Subsistence salmon fishing will close at 5:00 a.m. Saturday, August 3, and reopen at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, August 4.**

Subsistence fishermen must remove both tips of the tail fin of Chinook salmon before concealing from plain view or leaving the fishing site. Dipnets are also legal gear for subsistence fishing for salmon. Fishermen may use 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets to target non-salmon species during subsistence salmon closures.

This is an announcement by the ADF&G in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. To reach the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Emmonak call 949-1798. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A. News releases and fishery information will be shared on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG

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