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



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Date Issued: 8/8/19

2019 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 19 District 2 Commercial Period 5 and Subsistence Schedule Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2019 fall chum salmon preseason projection, based on the summer chum to fall chum salmon relationship, has been revised to a range of 700,000-800,000 fish. Run sizes within this range are expected to provide for escapement, subsistence needs, and a limited commercial fishery. Fall chum salmon passage at the mainstem sonar near the community of Pilot Station is above the historical median level.

District 2 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 2, from 1:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. Thursday, August 8. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period with the use of gillnets 6-inch or smaller mesh size. Chinook salmon may be sold during this commercial opening. 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 is open 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with 7.5 or smaller mesh size gillnets, except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after commercial fishing periods. **Due to this short notice commercial period, subsistence salmon fishing will close at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, August 8, and reopen at 10:30 a.m. Friday, August 9.**

Subsistence fishermen must remove both tips of the tail fin of Chinook salmon before concealing from plain view or leaving the fishing site. Dip nets 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: <u>www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG</u>