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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelly, Director



Contact: Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist Phone: (907) 459-7217 Fax: (907) 459-7271 Upper Yukon Area Field Office 1300 College Rd Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Date Issued: 9/29/16

## 2016 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 60 Yukon River District 6 Commercial Fishing Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area Emergency Order # 51

The 2016 coho salmon run projection, based on inseason assessment and commercial harvest below the mainstem sonar project near Pilot Station, is for an above average run size. The cumulative coho salmon passage estimate through August 31 was 168,000 fish, which is above the median passage of approximately 132,900 fish for this date. Coho salmon timing is 1-5 days later than average based on the lower river assessment projects. At this time, the coho salmon run appears to be above average and a surplus is available for a limited commercial harvest. Therefore an additional commercial fishing period will occur in District 6.

## **Districts 6 Commercial Fishing:**

Commercial fishing in District 6 will be open for one period from 6:00 p.m. Sunday, October 2 until 12:00 noon Wednesday, October 5. Commercial fishermen may use 6-inch or smaller mesh size set gillnets or fish wheels.

**Commercial fishermen must confirm their market prior to commercial fishing.** All fish harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. All fish species harvested and not sold must be recorded on the fish ticket as "caught but not sold". Processors, catcher sellers, or direct marketers must notify the department of their intent to operate by contacting the Fairbanks office at 459-7274.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at **1-866-479-7387** or in Fairbanks call **459-7387**. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at 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.