

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



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2018 Yukon River Salmon Fishery News Release # 35 District 4 Subsistence Fishing Schedule Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

Chinook salmon passage at the Pilot Station sonar is well below average and appears to be similar to 2015 in run timing and abundance. Current assessment is indicating the 2018 Chinook salmon run may be coming in below the lower end of the preseason projection. Subsistence restrictions including reduced fishing time and restricted gillnet mesh size are necessary. The current management strategy is to provide some limited Chinook harvest opportunity. Fishermen may need to adjust their Chinook salmon harvest goals to account for this weaker than expected run size.

Subsistence Management Actions:

District 4 (including Anvik, Grayling, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Galena and Ruby):

As previously announced, fishing is currently open until 6 p.m. Monday, July 2 with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels. Fishing will reopen from 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, July 5 with **6-inch** or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Effective 6 p.m. Sunday, July 8, fishing will open **with gillnets and fish wheels** for two 24-hour periods:

7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets: 6 p.m. Sunday, July 8 to 6 p.m. Monday, July 9

6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets: 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 11 to 6 p.m. Thursday, July 12

Fishermen may use set and drift gillnets and fish wheels. During subsistence salmon fishing closures, only gillnets with 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target non-salmon species.

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

www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG