

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Sam Cotten, Commissioner*  
*Scott Kelley, Director*



---

Contact:  
Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist  
Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist  
Phone: (907) 459-7274  
Toll free fishing schedule hotline: (866) 479-7387

Upper Yukon Area Office  
1300 College Rd.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Date Issued: 9/2/18

#### **2018 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 54** **District 1 Commercial Period 17 and Subsistence Schedule** Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The 2018 coho salmon are late in entering the Yukon River. A second pulse of approximately 37,300 coho salmon completed passing the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station on August 31. Although the current cumulative passage of 118,600 coho salmon at the mainstem sonar as of September 1 is below the median of 137,000 fish, the projected total run size of 266,000 fish is above the median run size of 209,000 fish.

Based on inseason assessment, a limited surplus of coho salmon remains in addition to that harvested in the fall chum salmon directed commercial fishery. By regulation, effective September 1, the coho salmon directed commercial fishing season opened in Districts 1 and 2 and management transitions to the Yukon River Coho Salmon Management Plan. By regulation, the coho salmon fishing season ends by September 10.

#### **District 1 Commercial Fishing:**

Commercial fishing will open for one period in the **Set Net Only Area** of District 1 on Monday, September 3 from 12:00 noon until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period for the **Set Net Only Area** with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets. The remainder of District 1 will be open to commercial fishing on Monday, September 3 from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

#### **Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers:**

The Pastolik and Pastoliak rivers near Apoon Pass, including 500 yards around their mouths (see map below), are closed to commercial fishing. Also, subsistence fishing with gillnets is closed in these waters, including gillnets with 4-inch mesh or less, for closures before, during, and after each commercial opening.

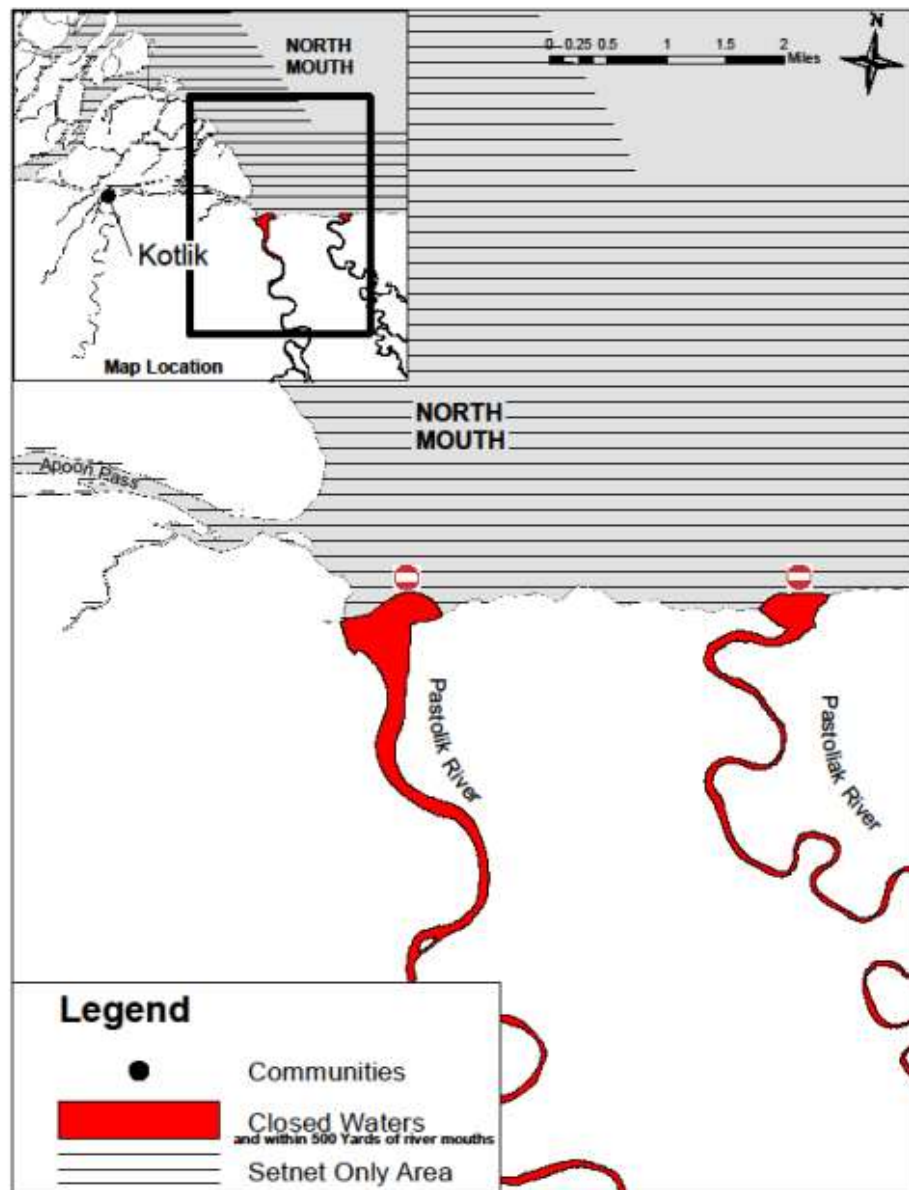
#### **District 1 Subsistence Fishing:**

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 1 is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches, except for closures before, during, and after

each commercial fishing period. **For this commercial opening, subsistence salmon fishing in District 1, including the Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers, will close at 12:00 midnight Monday, September 3, and reopen at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 4.**

The Emmonak field office closed for the season on Friday, August 31. For immediate information regarding schedules and commercial openings, please call (866) 479-7387. You can also contact the Fairbanks office Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. at 459-7274.

This is an announcement by the ADF&G in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Map showing location of Pastolik and Pastoliak Rivers closed to commercial fishing.

-end-