Advisory Announcement

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2020 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #20
Districts 4 and 5 Subsistence Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The current counts of Chinook salmon at Pilot Station sonar now indicate the run size is projected to meet escapement goals and support some harvest. Genetic results on the early passage of fish indicate that Canadian stocks, in particular, will be strong enough to support these goals. To provide opportunity for summer chum salmon and limited Chinook salmon harvest, fishing is being reopened with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets on a reduced regulatory schedule. Subsistence fishermen may continue to use fish wheels, dipnets, and beach seines during gillnet openings and all salmon may be retained.

The restrictions on 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets are also rescinded effective 10 p.m. Monday, June 29. During subsistence fishing closures, fishermen may use 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets to target non-salmon in mainstem and tributary waters. The 60-foot maximum length restriction is removed.

Subsistence Management Actions

District 4 (Grayling, Anvik, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Galena, and Ruby):
Subsistence fishing is currently closed.

Effective 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, subsistence fishing will open with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh and fish wheels on a schedule of two 24-hour periods per week from:

6 p.m. Tuesdays to 6 p.m. Wednesdays
6 p.m. Saturdays to 6 p.m. Sundays

Koyukuk River (Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, and Bettles):
Subsistence fishing is currently open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

A subsistence fishing permit is required for all species in the Koyukuk River above Bettles including the community of Wiseman.

Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C (Tanana and Rampart):
Subsistence fishing is currently closed.

Effective 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, subsistence fishing will open with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh and fish wheels on a schedule of two 24-hour periods per week from:

6 p.m. Tuesdays to 6 p.m. Wednesdays
6 p.m. Fridays to 6 p.m. Saturdays

Subdistrict 5-D (Stevens Village, Beaver, Fort Yukon, Venetie, Birch Creek, Chalkyitsik, Circle, Central, Eagle):

Subsistence fishing is currently closed.

Effective 10 a.m. Friday, July 3, subsistence fishing will open with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh and fish wheels on a schedule of one 84-hour (3.5 day) period per week from:

10 a.m. Fridays to 10 p.m. Mondays

A subsistence permit is required to fish for all species in portions of Subdistricts 5-C and 5-D from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the mouth of Dall River (Dalton Highway bridge area) and from the upstream mouth of 22 Mile Slough to the U.S./Canada border.

Subsistence harvest calendars and subsistence fishing permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Fairbanks office (459-7274) or online at www.adfg.alaska.gov/store/.

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

To reach the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks call 456-0406.

Announcements will be shared on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG

COVID-19

Under Alaska’s Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska’s Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/.