Advisory Announcement

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2020 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #31
District 1 Subsistence Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

By this time, the majority of the Chinook salmon run has entered the river, and the drainage-wide run size is projected to be around 150,000 fish. A run of this size should meet escapement goals, but the surplus for harvest is limited, so fishermen should adjust their Chinook salmon goals to about half of what they harvested last year.

Due to unseasonably high water, early closures, and poor weather, fishing effort and catch efficiency has been reported as very low for most of the season. Fishing time is being extended to the regulatory schedule of two 36-hour periods per week, and fishermen may use 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

There are currently no commercial periods announced. While good numbers of chum salmon entered the river starting July 6, chum salmon abundance is so low we need to allow increased escapement until a harvestable surplus for commercial fishing is projected.

Subsistence Management Actions

District 1 and the North Coastal Area (from 62 degrees North latitude north to Point Romanof, including the Black River, and communities of Emmonak, Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, and Kotlik):

Effective 8 p.m. Thursday, July 9, fishing will open with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets on the regulatory schedule of two 36-hour periods per week from:

8 p.m. Thursdays to 8 a.m. Saturdays
8 p.m. Mondays to 8 a.m. Wednesdays

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, Subsistence fishing is Essential and is part of Alaska’s Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Subsistence fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/.