Advisory Announcement

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2020 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #39
District 6 Subsistence and Personal Use Fishing Schedule
Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

Based on run timing, the Chinook salmon run should be nearly complete in the Tanana River and summer chum salmon should be present. In the subsistence fishery, the requirement for manned wheels and selective gear is being removed. Gillnets, dip nets, beach seines, and fish wheels may be used during open periods and fishermen may retain Chinook salmon. Because of the poor summer chum run, fishing will remain on half schedule for the remainder of the summer season in the Tanana River. As a reminder, fishing for non-salmon species is allowed during open and closed periods; however, gillnets must have 4-inch or smaller mesh.

Subsistence Management Actions

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the Wood River, including Manley, Minto, and Nenana):

Subsistence fishing is open for one more 42-hour period with dip nets, beach seines, and live release fish wheels from 6 p.m. Monday, August 3 to 12 p.m. noon Wednesday, August 5. Fish wheels must be closely attended, and all Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately during this opening.

Effective 6 p.m. Friday, August 7, subsistence fishing will open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on a reduced regulatory schedule of two 24-hour periods per week from:

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

Fishermen may retain Chinook salmon and are no longer required to closely attend fish wheels.

Kantishna River:
Subsistence fishing is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Old Minto Area:
Subsistence fishing is currently open with dip nets, beach seines, and live release fish wheels until 6 p.m. Wednesday, August 5. Fish wheels must be closely attended, and all Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately during this opening.

Effective 6 p.m. Friday, August 7, subsistence fishing will open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels on the regulatory schedule of one 5-day period per week from:
6 p.m. Fridays to 6 p.m. Wednesdays

Fishermen may retain Chinook salmon and are no longer required to closely attend fish wheels.

Upper Tanana Area (the Tanana River from the confluence with the mouth of Volkmar River on the north bank and the mouth of the Johnson River on the south bank upstream to the Tanana River headwaters):

Subsistence fishing is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels.

Personal Use Fishing

Subdistrict 6-C Salmon (Personal use fishery from the regulatory marker at the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River, which includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha):

Personal Use fishing will open for one more 42-hour period with dip nets and live release fish wheels only from 6 p.m. Monday, August 3 to 12 p.m. noon Wednesday, August 5. Fish wheels must be closely attended, and all Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately during this period.

In the Personal Use fishery regulations, except during times of conservation for salmon, dip nets may not be used to harvest salmon. Therefore, after 12 p.m. noon Wednesday, August 5, dip nets may not be used.

Effective 6 p.m. Friday, August 7, personal use fishing will open with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets and fish wheels only on a reduced regulatory schedule of two 24-hour periods per week from:

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

Fishermen may retain Chinook salmon and are no longer required to closely attend fish wheels.

Subdistrict 6-C Whitefish and Sucker Personal Use Fishing

Fishing for whitefish and suckers in this area remains open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, subject to permit stipulations.

In the Tanana River up to the Wood River (Subdistrict 6-A and 6-B), and in the Upper Tanana River Area, a subsistence permit is required for salmon fishing. A personal use permit is required to fish for salmon and other species from the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the mouth of the Salcha River (Subdistrict 6-C). Fishermen may only use set gillnets and fish wheels in the Personal Use salmon fishery.

A subsistence permit is required for northern pike in the Tolovana River drainage, including Minto Flats.

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, 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/.