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



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2017 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 13 Subdistricts 4-B & 4-C Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area Fall Season Emergency Orders # 12 & 13

The 2017 fall chum salmon preseason projection is for a run size greater than 1.1 million fish. The estimated fall chum salmon passage at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station through July 25 is 226,100 fish, which is above the historical median of 103,500 fish for that date. Consistent with transitioning to fall season management, the following management actions will occur in the Subdistrict 4-B and 4-C.

Subdistrict 4-B and 4-C (from Cone Point upstream to the westernmost edge of Illinois Creek, which includes the communities of Galena and Ruby):

Subsistence fishing is currently open on the regulatory fishing schedule of two 48-hour periods per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh set gillnets and fish wheels:

- 6 p.m. Wednesdays until 6 p.m. Fridays
- 6 p.m. Sundays until 6 p.m. Tuesdays

Effective 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 30, subsistence fishing will be open on a 5-day per week schedule of 6 p.m. Sundays until 6 p.m. Fridays with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh size set gillnets and fish wheels.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated. However, subsistence fishermen targeting non-salmon species may use 4-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

The commercial salmon fishing season in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C opens 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 30. <u>Currently, there are no registered buyers in either subdistrict and commercial fishermen must confirm their market prior to fishing.</u> Processors, catcher sellers, or direct marketers must notify the department of their intent to operate by contacting the Fairbanks office at 459-7274.

Fishing schedules, test fish catches and sonar counts are available 24 hours a day at (866) 479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387.

If you have any questions, please call ADF&G in Emmonak at (907) 949-1320, the ADF&G office in Fairbanks at (907) 459-7274 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at (907) 455-1849.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.