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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelly, Director



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2017 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 19 District 1 Commercial Period 6 Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area Fall Season Emergency Order # 18

District 1 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in District 1, including the <u>Set Net Only Area</u>, from **3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight Wednesday, August 2**. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size.

The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited. Commercial gillnet fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. Chinook salmon retained from commercial gillnet gear must be recorded on a fish ticket as retained but not sold.

Verbal reports from District 1 period 5 commercial opening on July 27 indicate a preliminary harvest of 29,019 fall chum and 381 coho salmon from 239 deliveries. The preliminary total commercial harvest to date in District 1 is 126,465 fall chum and 1,014 coho salmon.

Reminders to fishermen in District 1:

During subsistence salmon fishing closures in District 1, the Pastolik and Pastoliak rivers near Apoon Pass are closed. These 2 rivers are also closed to commercial fishing, including 500 yards around the mouths.

District 1 Subsistence Fishing:

Subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets, except for closures before, during, and after commercial fishing periods. In District 1, for this commercial period subsistence salmon fishing will close at 3:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 2, and reopen at 12:00 noon Thursday, August 3. Fishermen may use 4inch or smaller mesh size gillnets to target non-salmon species during subsistence salmon closures.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day, toll free at 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or the Fairbanks office at 459-7274. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

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

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