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



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelly, Director



Contact: Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist Christy Gleason, Asst. Area Management Biologist Phone: (907) 949-1320 Fax: (907) 949-1830 Lower Yukon Area Office P.O. Box 127 Emmonak, Alaska 99581

Date Issued: 8/3/17

2017 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 22 District 2 Commercial Period 5 Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area Fall Season Emergency Order # 21

District 2 Commercial Fishing:

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in **District 2, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Friday, August 4**. This will be a 4-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to 6inch or smaller mesh size. <u>Commercial fishermen should confirm their buyer before they</u> <u>fish. There will be no tenders operating for this commercial period. Fishermen will only be</u> <u>able to make deliveries to buying stations at St. Mary's and Mountain Village.</u>

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 2 period 4 commercial opening on July 31 indicate a preliminary harvest of 4,416 fall chum and 36 coho salmon from 50 deliveries. The preliminary total commercial harvest to date in District 2 is 34,516 fall chum and 85 coho salmon.

District 2 Subsistence Fishing Schedule:

Subsistence salmon fishing in District 2 is open during the fall season 7 days per week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches, except for closures before, during and after commercial fishing periods. For this commercial period, subsistence fishing will close at 4:00 a.m. Friday, August 4, and reopen at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, August 5. Fishermen may use 4-inch 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.

-end-