ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2019 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 42 Subdistrict 6-B Commercial and Subsistence Fishing Schedule

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

With passage at Pilot Station sonar of nearly 1.4 million summer chum salmon, a commercial surplus of summer chum is available for harvest. Despite low summer chum counts at the escapement projects on the Chena and Salcha Rivers, the late arrival of large groups of Tanana-bound fish indicates chum will be arriving through the month of August. Therefore, the commercial fishery is being reopened on the Tanana River.

In order to spread harvest out through the summer chum salmon run, the processor will buy a limited number of fish per period. Commercial fishermen should coordinate with the buyer on a daily basis regarding scheduling deliveries and the amount of fish the processor will purchase.

Commercial periods will be open concurrent with the subsistence fishing schedules in District 6-until further notice, however commercial gillnet fishermen are restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets. Commercial fish wheels are not required to be manned.

All salmon harvested during commercial fishing operations must be recorded on a fish ticket at the time of sale. Chinook salmon may not be sold. All Chinook salmon kept for personal use must be recorded on the fish ticket. Processors, catcher-sellers, or direct marketers should notify the department of their intent to operate by contacting the Fairbanks office at 459-7274.

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

Effective 6 p.m. Friday, August 2, **commercial** fishing for summer chum salmon will be open for two 42-hour periods per week **with 6-inch or smaller mesh gillnets** and fish wheels from:

- 6 p.m. Fridays to 12 p.m. noon Sundays
- 6 p.m. Mondays to 12 p.m. noon Wednesdays

Subsistence salmon fishing is open, concurrent with commercial fishing, for two 42-hour periods per week with **7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets** and fish wheels from:

• 6 p.m. Fridays to 12 p.m. noon Sundays

• 6 p.m. Mondays to 12 p.m. noon Wednesdays

A subsistence or personal use fishing permit is required to fish for all species in the Tanana River drainage. Set gillnets, dip nets, and fish wheels are allowed in District 6 subsistence salmon fisheries. During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fishing for non-salmon species is allowed. However, gillnets must have 4-inch or smaller mesh.

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 455-1849.

News releases, test fish catches, and sonar counts are also available on Facebook: www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG/

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