

# **Yukon River Inseason Salmon Harvest Interviews, 2006**

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### **Abstract**

Subsistence salmon harvest information collected during the fishing season is an important management tool for Yukon River fishery managers. Information gauging the progress towards subsistence salmon harvest goals, fishing conditions, and quality of subsistence catch were collected in 2006. Local village interviewers contacted a subsample of fishermen each week to evaluate progress towards meeting subsistence harvest goals. Ninety-three households were interviewed weekly between May 31 and August 6, 2006 in the Alaska villages of Emmonak, Marshall, Holy Cross, Kaltag, Huslia, Galena, and Beaver. A combined total of 345 interviews was conducted during the Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* and summer chum salmon *O. keta* fishing season. Information was reported during 14 weekly public Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association teleconferences, distributed in eight weekly written summaries, and used in six federal inseason memorandums of concurrence management reports. In general, inseason interview data indicated that the largest change in subsistence harvest goal progression for lower Yukon River communities, expressed as a harvest percentage increase, occurred around the first quarter point of the Chinook salmon run when the first pulse was present. Conversely, upper Yukon River communities reported the largest change occurred when the second pulse was present, near the midpoint of the Chinook salmon run. Summer chum salmon harvest progression was largest around the quarter-point of the run. Excluding the village of Huslia, subsistence harvest goals for Chinook and summer chum salmon were met or nearly met for the 2006 fishing season.

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