

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



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**2008 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 17**  
**Announcement # 12, Lower Yukon Subsistence Fishing Reduction**  
Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

A second pulse of Chinook salmon was identified by the Lower Yukon Test Fishery (LYTF) from June 22 through June 24. A third pulse was initially detected on the evening of June 26 and has continued through the morning of June 29. This pulse appears to be the strongest to date with catches in excess of 170 Chinook salmon for three consecutive days. The cumulative CPUE through June 28 is 16.52 which is below the average of 18.12 for this date. The estimated midpoint of the run at LYTF is June 25.

The Pilot Station sonar passage estimate for Chinook salmon through June 28 is approximately 61,800 fish which is below the average of 101,400 for this date. Over the next few days, it is anticipated that there will be an increase in the daily passage of Chinook salmon at Pilot Station as the third pulse is enumerated. The preliminary passage estimate for summer chum through June 28 is approximately 597,900 fish which is below the average of 902,400 for this date.

In an effort to conserve Chinook salmon, subsistence salmon fishing period reductions will continue to be implemented in District Y-1, Y-2 and Y-3 to protect the third pulse.

As the third pulse exits the lower river districts, the regulatory subsistence salmon fishing schedule will return to the two 36-hour periods per week. At that time, it is expected that 75% of the Chinook salmon run would have passed.

During the subsistence salmon fishing closures, all gill nets with a mesh size greater than four inches must be removed from the water.

**District Y-1 and the Coastal District:**

In District Y-1 and that portion of the Coastal District north of 62 degrees north latitude and south of Chris Point marker, subsistence salmon fishing is open from 8:00 p.m. Monday, June

30, until 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, with gill nets restricted to a maximum of 6-inch mesh size.

In the Coastal District north of the Chris Point marker and south of 62 degrees north, which includes the villages of Chevak, Hooper Bay, and Scammon Bay, subsistence salmon fishing will remain open 7 days per week.

Effective 8:00 p.m. Thursday, July 3, District Y-1 will return to its regulatory two 36-hour subsistence periods per week with no gill net restrictions. Subsistence salmon fishing will be open from 8:00 p.m. Mondays until 8:00 a.m. Wednesdays and from 8:00 p.m. Thursdays until 8:00 a.m. Saturdays.

Effective 8:00 p.m. Thursday, July 3, the entire Coastal District will return to its regulatory subsistence salmon schedule and will be open 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

**District Y-2:**

Subsistence salmon fishing is open from 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 29, until 2:00 p.m. Monday, June 30 and from 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, until 2:00 p.m. Thursday, July 3, with gill nets restricted to a maximum of 6-inch mesh size.

Effective 8:00 p.m. Sunday, July 6, District Y-2 will return to its regulatory two 36-hour subsistence periods per week with no gill net restrictions. Subsistence salmon fishing will be open from 8:00 p.m. Sundays until 8:00 a.m. Tuesdays and from 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays until 8:00 a.m. Fridays.

**District Y-3:**

Subsistence salmon fishing is open from 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 1 until 2:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 2, and from 8:00 a.m. Friday, July 4, until 2:00 a.m. Saturday, July 5, with gill nets restricted to a maximum of 6-inch mesh size.

Effective 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 8, District Y-3 will return to its regulatory two 36-hour subsistence periods per week with no gill net restrictions. Subsistence salmon fishing will be open from 8:00 a.m. Fridays until 8:00 p.m. Saturdays and from 8:00 a.m. Tuesdays until 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays.

**Innoko River:**

Effective 8:00 a.m. Tuesday July 2, the Innoko River subsistence salmon fishing schedule remains open 7 days a week 24 hours a day, however, gill nets are restricted to a maximum of 6-inch mesh size.

For recorded Lower Yukon fishery announcements and updates call the 24-hour hotline in Emmonak at 949-1731. For current subsistence and commercial fishing information concerning the Upper Yukon fishery, call toll free outside of Fairbanks (1-866) 479-7387, and in Fairbanks 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Emmonak 949-1320. The Fish and Game office stands by on VHF channel 7a.

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

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