**DFO Canadian Management Update**

**YRDFA Conference Call – July 25, 2017**

* The 2017 Canadian management strategy is based on objectives established by the Yukon River Panel under the Yukon River Salmon Agreement, as well as recommendations from the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee in consultation with Yukon First Nation Governments and community members.
* The YSSC plan adopted in 2017 is similar in the approach taken in 2016; the mid-point of the YRP escapement goal range of 42,500-55,000 (48,750) is the Canadian Management target.
* A precautionary approach will be taken in First Nations subsistence fishery until such time as a clearer estimate of run strength can be determined in-season via the Eagle sonar. The general approach further recommends that any harvest of Chinook salmon be directed at smaller (younger) fish. This can be achieved through the use of smaller-mesh gill nets (i.e. 6” or less) or selective release or larger (older) fish from fish wheels. (plus Individual FN governments have maintained very conservative approaches and have implemented community based management strategies aimed at longer term conservation).
* Effective July 5 the catch and possession limit for Chinook salmon was varied to 0 and the commercial and domestic fisheries remain closed.
* The key priority for management in Canada will remain focused on ensuring that sufficient numbers of Canadian-origin salmon reach their spawning grounds in order to sustain future returns.
* The first and early groups of fish have migrated as far upstream as Whitehorse. The first fish have arrived at the Whitehorse Fishway – can be observed by the “fishcam”.
* Porcupine sonar is in operation; chinook estimated as of July 23 is 586. Counts are of concern as are environmental conditions. Water levels have been extremely low and water temperatures very high – conditions improving this week.
* Pelly sonar installed July 3; 1240 as of July 20. Water was extremely high on the Pelly last week but is dropping and clearing this week. Several fish camps have started putting up fish.
* Big Salmon sonar operational July 16 – count to date 360.
* Blind Creek experienced very high water – weir installation delayed but should be in today.