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**Greetings from the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association!**  June 13, 2017

Here is a summary of the Yukon River Salmon In-Season Management Teleconference #2 held Tuesday, June 13, 2017. The toll free call-in number is 1-800-315-6338 and the code is YUKON# (98566#).

Here is the ADFG toll free number to get fish count information and announcements on fishing openings and closures. Call: ***866-479-7387***

**Background:** Yukon River salmon management teleconferences are held annually every Tuesday in June, July, and August for managers and fishers throughout the Yukon River drainage to discuss fishing conditions and management strategies in real time as the salmon run is occurring. *The Teleconferences are funded by the Federal Office of Subsistence Management, Dept. f the Interior.*

Media on the call:

KEAA Eagle Community Radio

KZPA Fort Yukon Radio

**Community level reports**: Alaska

**Alakanuk:** YRDFA surveyor, contacted 28 fishers, in 12 hr period-only 9 fished, most reporting better than last week success. Using 6.5”mesh, 110 chum, 11 kings caught. Some happy, some complaints. Would rather use gill nets rather than dip nets. Some using beach seines-up river they get 300 fish,and they only get 100 down here. People continue smoking of fish so flies will not ruin the meat. Fish just trickling in near June 25. A lot of kings caught during c0mmercial, illegal to keep.

Fisher-water high, small debris. People are satisfied with fish they are catching..

**Mountain Village:** Catherine/YRDFA surveyor, 8 fishers interviewed, 3 fished, making some progress harvesting chum. Most felt run was the same as last week, 2 felt it was better Kings average-80 chum caught.

**St. Marys:** Fisher-water low for this time, no drift. Fish racks looking full. Sunday opener-7.5”nets-lot of fish out there-folks seem happy. 1- 20 min drift-got what I needed, lot of big chum caught. Thanks the dept for 7.5 gear for kings. Got a few calls-confusion about subsistence openers. In the morning opener. A little confusing. Many done with subsistence harvest on this part of the river.

Marshall; YRDFA surveyor-15 fishers interviewed, 10 fished Saturday -7.5” opener. Water dropped a few feet. No drift. 50-80% done with chum harvest. Thanks management for King salmon opportunity.

**Russian Mission:** Catherine/YRDFA surveyor-7 fishers interviewed, chum ½ better, 3 said fishing was worse, average catch 82 chum-4” gill and dip. Some folks are finished, some getting started, many waiting for kings.

**Anvik:** YRDFA Surveyor- 7 interviewed, 1 fished, 7 Kings caught. Waiting for opener for 7.5”.

Ken Chase-Innoko water level a bit lower, catching sheefish

**Nulato:** Fisher- no fishing yet. Waiting for sunday opening, getting fish wheels ready. Water level the same, no drift.

**Koyukuk:** Fisher-nothing to report. Did not fish due to closure. Set-net for summer chum and got 4 king. Waiting for opener.

**Huslia:** Catherine/YRDFA surveyor: Couple of fishers, 40 sheefish-eggs long and narrow, no Kings. Couple fishers catching chum.

**Ruby:** Fisher-water a bit low, no drift. Some chum caught and a few jack-kings. Folks just beginning.

**Tanana:** YRDFA surveyor- 6 fishers interviewed, waiting till after closure. 4 fished. 2 reported worse. One said 4 Kings caught. One fishwheel did most catching.

**Rapids:** Fisher-4 camps open in Rapids at present with other Tanana residents fishing near here also from the village. Some King being caught but numbers small and one very good eddy got nothing in last 24 hours. Fish size running small (none over 20 lbs yet) but beautiful quality as they are at beginning of run. Water low for this part of summer. Many say they are waiting to fish till after the first pulse closure. A few chum being caught.

**Fort Yukon:** YRDFA surveyor-not much happening yet. Small bit of debris in the river. No one fishing except for whitefish. Getting ready.

**Eagle:** YRDFA surveyor- 5 fishers contacted, no one strated yet, want to increase fall chum, most using 6” gear, river high.

**Nenana:** Fisher- 3 nets in river, no kings yet, cotton flying, they are here. All good and good luck.

**Fairbanks:** Fisher, Chena low. Nothing going on yet.

TCC, lamprey spawning on the Tanana.

**Community level reports**: Canada

Old Crow: William-hot weather, low water, whitefish

Dawson: Nathasha-

Teslin: Gillian-early for salmonup here and gearing up for makng final management decisions. Expectation is conservative, maybe communal catch. water not to high. getting rain.

Whitehorse: Jesse-YSSC water high and muddy-rain. Early to see any fish. Preparing for meeting with Cnadina miniester. Harvey-water

**Management Reports Agenda:**

***We are now going to turn to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to hear their update on the assessment projects and their current and future management plans.*** - Holly-in Nulato-Fred West

(Jeff Estensen with ADFG will give a fall report as the fall season will begin on July 15 /16 in the Y-1 lower river district)

**Any follow up or update from USFWS?** Fred Bue-appears run is early, still strong indication with test netsand sonar and fishers

***Does the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans have anything they would like to share at this time? Mary Ellen-Get this from her.***

*Nathan- DFO-conclude preseasonman planning. Fianlize 2017 before end og June. Antici below average run. Conservative to reach spawning grounds.*

***Questions and discussion:*** *Now is the time to bring your observations and questions pertaining to in-river fisheries. Who would like to start?*

Victor-? Holly-Opening for Rapids, did not know yet, monitoring. Typically closed till 23rd. Usually able to give

Randy Mayo-managersin fbank, mesh size this year, last yaer a lot of confusion 6’ and 7.5. Will upper follow lower river use using 7.5. 2 consideration-feed back……….R-Gear is expensive-folks cannot afford to switch back and forth. H-appreciate that. During this time of conversation, stron focus on 6” but now trygto provide more opportunity-longer and time needed, also some had fisher concerns and fewer requests but when offered

Ken Chase-H?-opening tomorrow-is that 7.5, changed? H-yes, correct, decided to liberlize after 1st pulse came through and stronger looking run. Are allowing 7.5 and less. KC-who’s giving info out around Anvik? H-enforcement? KC-not sure. H-do not have info on that. Use the call-in number. I ask enforcement to also do that. Not aware of any ADFG folks in a boat.

Fred H-Galena 4b&c: H-selective gear only-starting sunday June 5, back to gill nets and 24 hr periosds. Can use 7.5 and smaller gear. F-not allowed to set a net. H-correct for protecting Kings. Call 1866/479-7387 Fbks-459-7387.

Randy-mesh size-hopefully the dept can give enough lead time, around YR bridge-pretty enforced.

Martin-PS-?-looking back-June 23rd 2015419k sumer chum apast PS-855k this year. heard 99k kings had past. 62% 5 year olds, have been very conservative, peple loss TDK due to over regulation. back to 2008. Wanted to make a point last 2 years.

Ben Jones-Koy-some confusing in Galena on opener. Are we allowed to drift on that period. H-4A upper? yes. You do not have the 24 hour period, back on regular schedual with 7.5” or smaller. Got me confused, drft?, Yes.

Victor-Does that go for 4b-c? H-federal qualified drift area. Yesterdays release shows map.

Pam-focused would like more and longer fishing. Most waiting for fall chum. Why isn/t anc area sport fishing limited. Like more kings to harvest. During closur for commercial for sub can they conitnue using dip-nets or 4” on down. H-have a period mon-sat-7.5” gill-nets. when closed nothing bigger than 4”. Remind-when you switch to gillnets, not legal to use dip-nets for subsistence.

Don Honea-agree its a complicated river. need to know wher fed waters are. Makesthig even more so when we go from one to the other. ?-when we call that # can folks answer ??’s. I’m waiting to see where the pulses are. Sure would be nice what Randy said. H-just a recoreded schedual-but 9491320 at emmonak has a person-does get busy.

Jeff Estensen-Fbks 459-7274 M

Alex Evan Mar-shalif you meet all your goals for escapement etc can you open king for salmon. H-wnot know for qyite a while. Too early to consider due to severe subsistence so restricted. A-hopefully we see many fish passing.

Edna-Boreal-any possible change in fishers ability to sell incidental caught kings. H-run size is half the size of historical. This run might be 180k. Despite sacrifices, until meeting goals and providing full subsistence we are not considering commercial harvest.

Don-Ruby-appreciate phone#. Do we have to wait till next Tuesday. Any way to tell where the pulses are? H-just call the number. Also in weekly release. D-fishing announcement, FB? H-official doc-the update is the long one.by fax with every tribal office, on radio, on phone and on FB.

Pamela-Yukon River Fishing ADFG.com-H-go to FB

Brooke Wright Rampart-on the call

Wiliam-Old Grow-dsitrubance-update on fish coming up. H-been tracking kings at PS-total 99k, above average. Fred-yes corect-and today 10k. Strong numbers.

Eric-St Marys-pretty darn good numbers, high chum, my personal feeling we should easily make border goals and would like to have a YAg call. H-yep Wayne can set up. Wants to thank Nulato for hosting! Helps a lot to here from fishers in the communities.

**Communities participating this week; in Alaska:**

**Communities participating this week; in Yukon Territory:**

**Yukon River Subsistence Reports: Alaska**

**Yukon River Subsistence Reports:Canada**

**Alaskan Fishery Management Reports and comments:**

**Canadian Fishery Management Reports and comments:**

**Questions and discussion:**

**Fisheries management from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game:**

For Alaskan management regulation announcements, news releases and most current updates for the fishing season, please visit on the web:

Yukon River Fishing-ADFG Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG/>. Website: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

or call toll-free **1-866-479-7387** for recorded fishing schedules and assessment information. To speak to management in Emmonak call 907/949-1320.

For Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada updates, please visit:

http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm

or call toll-free 604-666-2828 or 866-431-3474 for recorded fishing schedules and information.

For further information, please contact the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association at 907-272-3141 or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Yukon-River-Drainage-Fisheries-Association> and look for us on the web at www.yukonsalmon.org.

Please join us on the next teleconference, Tuesday at 1 p.m. Alaska time (2 p.m. Yukon time) and THANK YOU! For participating!

Wayne Jenkins; YRDFA Director

