Greetings from the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association!

Here is a summary of the 5th Yukon River Salmon In-Season Management Teleconference held on Tuesday, July 1, 2015.

**Background:** Yukon River salmon management teleconferences are held annually on every Tuesday in June, July, and August for fishing communities and fisheries managers throughout the Yukon River drainage to discuss fishing conditions and management strategies as the salmon run is occurring. Funded by the Office of Subsistence Management and the Yukon River Panel.

**Communities participating this week:** Nunam Iqua, Kotlik, Saint Mary’s, Pilot Station, Marshall, Russian Mission, Anvik, Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk, Huslia, Allakaket, Galena, Ruby, Fort Yukon, Fairbanks

**Subsistence Reports:** (reports may be from one individual or a few depending on who participated in the call this week and reflect the participant on the call at the time)

The coast reported that they were able to catch chum and were happy for the minimal kings they were allowed to keep. The commercial fishers reported a lot of kings going by. Kotlik reported that they have done well with the opening they had for chums and now they have enough for now and the water levels are dropping and sandbars appearing. Another reporter from Kotlik expressed dissatisfaction with the dip nets.

Y-2 area of St. Mary’s, Pilot Station and Marshall reported people are starting to fill up their fish racks but some are still not doing well. There is good drying weather; some people saw small fish and fish with sores; the water level is down. Smoky and breezy in the area.

Russian Mission said people were happy for the 3-hour subsistence opening with 6-inch gillnets and people got 40-50 salmon. There is puss in the meat and the flies are around making drying fish more difficult.

Anvik reported the water is the lowest in years. 4-5 boats fished with seine nets and got 60-80 chum salmon; people have caught sheefish and Grayling. They have had no luck drifting in the Yukon River main stem and subsistence is not met yet. People need more notice about fishing and some missed out.

Kaltag and Nulato reported the water is low, no fishing except some hook and line. It has been hot and sunny with less smoke. Looking forward to the Friday set net opener. Some Nulato folks evacuated because of fire are in Kaltag. Koyukuk reported no fishing, smoky and water dropping.

The Koyukuk River reported water is low and it is hot and there is a lot of smoke in air due to forest fires.

Galena and Ruby reported no fish and they are waiting for 4” nets and dip nets and also for the fish to come by – people do not have required gear yet. There are lots of fires and smoke is in the area. Water is low and temperatures are high.

Fort Yukon reported it is also smoky from fires, the water came up 1-2 feet and there is light debris in the water. Four people fished for pike, some kings and a couple manned wheels operating.

**Public comments, questions, and answers:**

People asked various questions on the topics of: fish size, what gear they can use and what their fishing schedules are in the different districts. Concern was expressed about mining in Canada and it was brought out that public media like television shows may elaborate on the reality of what is going on. People questioned why the tributaries that do not have Canadian bound fish are also closed to king harvest and management replied that this issue can be brought up at the Alaska Board of Fisheries meeting coming up in January 2016. Salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea was brought up and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game mentioned how hard they have worked at the North Pacific Council to limit salmon bycatch in the pollock fisheries.

**Salmon Fisheries Research and Management:**

For Alaskan research and management information, please visit:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishingCommercialByArea.interior>

*OR* he subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at [1-866-479-7387](tel:1-866-479-7387" \t "_blank) (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call[(907) 459-7387](tel:%28907%29%20459-7387" \t "_blank)

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

http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/fmcountingfac.htm

For further information, please contact the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association at 907-272-3131 or 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). As a reminder, the toll free number is 1-800-315-6338 and the code is YUKON# (98566#).