A NEW RECORD HIGH: CHINOOK SALMON BYCATCH IN THE POLLOCK FISHERY

BY BECCA ROBBINS, YRDFA POLICY COORDINATOR

The pollock fishery has achieved a new record high this year with over 64,000 Chinook salmon caught as bycatch by the pollock fleet in their first two months of fishing. Last year over 84,000 Chinook salmon were caught as bycatch by the end of the season. If these rates continue this year’s total will be even higher.

As we’ve reported previously in Yukon Fisheries News, bycatch numbers have been climbing incredibly high in recent years. While three years ago 64,000 Chinook salmon would have been a record for the season, numbers have increased in the last few years with more than 74,000 Chinook salmon caught as bycatch in 2005 and nearly 90,000 in 2006. Chum salmon bycatch, which normally appears later in the season, has been similarly high with over 700,000 chum salmon caught as bycatch in 2005 and over 325,000 in 2006.

The pollock fishery – Alaska’s largest fishery – is managed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the Council). While salmon bycatch has been traditionally managed through set time and area closures, the pollock fleet has been utilizing a program of rolling closures called the “Voluntary Rolling Hot Spot” or VRHS system in recent years. Previously the fleet has used the system in addition to the regulatory closures, but starting this year the VRHS system is being used without the regulatory closures in place.

“...it is essential that a limit or ‘cap’ be put into place...”

Alaska representation, at their meeting in Anchorage at the end of March. Further discussion of a cap is scheduled for the Council’s June meeting in Sitka.

Comments to the Council can be sent to:
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Fax: (907) 271-2817

For more information on this issue, or to receive updates by e-mail contact Becca at the YRDFA office, x106 or e-mail becca@yukonsalmon.org.
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY JILL KLEIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The 2007 Fishing Season is upon us and I hope that Yukon River salmon return in plentiful numbers that all people who rely on the salmon are satisfied in their harvest efforts. Equally important is to hope that we put enough salmon on the spawning grounds for future harvests as well.

When taking our actions this summer, we should still be thinking about how we will be talking with each other about how the salmon are doing and how the people are doing who rely on the salmon. It is also good to be thinking about the time when we will be sitting at the table again, trying to make decisions together. I think the time has come for all groups working with salmon fisheries to come together to try to see a larger vision for the Yukon River. Here are a few steps that will send us in the right direction:

- Review priorities, define problems, create clear goals, create lift, identify resources, create ripple effects, identify external changes, and attain success.

Change happens because there are good opportunities, there is expert advice to utilize, there are people in similar situations we can learn from, there is trust and relationships being built, there is learning, and sometimes there is even fun.

Let us enjoy this summer season and be thankful for the salmon that return, but let us also think about how to communicate better during this summer season and beyond.

Searching for Participants

The Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association (YRDFA) will be coordinating the Yukon River Educational Exchange Program for the fifth year! This program provides an opportunity for diverse groups of people involved in salmon fisheries along the Yukon River to come together. This year, Alaskans will visit the Yukon Territory to explore, experience, and understand regional and cultural differences regarding fisheries issues.

Alaskans will visit up-river communities in the Yukon Territory for 10 days, sometime between July 22 and August 6, 2007.

Participants will have the opportunity to:
- Find out how the Yukon River Salmon Agreement affects and impacts their lives,
- Become informed and updated regarding salmon management issues,
- Witness test fisheries and spend time at local fish camps,
- Interact with local fishermen, management entities, commercial fishermen, & processors,
- Meet with Canadian First Nations & Elders,
- Learn about salmon biology, status of stocks, and different types of fisheries, and
- Obtain skills and resources necessary to share this knowledge with home communities.

WE ARE SEARCHING FOR 5 ALASKANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR’S EXCHANGE. Each participant needs to be able to travel by boat, plane, or foot on a rigorous 10 day trip and willing to stay in simple accommodations. YRDFA will provide for food, lodging, and all travel expenses. Participants should be strong community leaders involved in salmon fisheries. Applications are available at www.yukonsalmon.org. These dates are tentatively scheduled and may change depending on host community schedules.

For more information, contact Jason Hale with YRDFA at (907) 272-3141 ext. 105, toll free at (877) 999-8566, or email jason@yukonsalmon.org.
This article describes the anticipated management of the 2007 season. State and Federal fishery managers will coordinate management of the Yukon River subsistence salmon fishery.

**RUN AND HARVEST OUTLOOK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinook Salmon</th>
<th>Chum Salmon</th>
<th>Coho Salmon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average to below average run is projected to provide for escapement and subsistence uses.</td>
<td>Average run is projected to provide for escapement and subsistence uses.</td>
<td>Average to above average run is projected to provide for escapement and subsistence uses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 Chinook salmon run is anticipated to be similar to 2006.</td>
<td>Runs have been increasing due to improved production.</td>
<td>Runs have been increasing due to improved production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial harvest is anticipated to be between 30,000 and 60,000 fish.</td>
<td>Summer chum commercial harvest is anticipated to be between 500,000 and 550,000 fish.</td>
<td>Fall chum commercial harvest is anticipated to be between 50,000 and 70,000 fish.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

- Initial management will be based on preseason projections and shifted to inseason project information as the runs develop. The Alaska Department of Fish & Game may schedule a commercial salmon fishing period near the first quarter point (historically, June 15) in District 1 or 2, which may be of short duration. Additional commercial periods will be spread over the middle 50% of the run. Fishing periods after the third quarter point will depend on information from assessment projects and available markets.

- The US/Canada Yukon River Panel agreed to a Canadian escapement goal range of 33,000 to 43,000 Chinook salmon for 2007. This is the rebuilt escapement goal range agreed to in the Yukon River Salmon Agreement.

- The Yukon Panel also agreed to a Canadian Yukon River fall chum salmon mainstem escapement objective of >80,000 fish. The Yukon Panel set an interim rebuilding escapement objective for the Fishing Branch River of >33,667 fall chum salmon. This interim goal is to allow subsistence and aboriginal harvest by Alaska and Canadian fishermen.

All subsistence salmon fishing with gillnets and fish wheels must be stopped during subsistence salmon fishing closures. Effective June 1, 2007, the subsistence fishing marking requirements will change. In Districts 1-3, from June 1 to July 15 a person may not possess king salmon taken for subsistence uses unless both tips (lobes) of the tail fin have been removed. Marking must be done before the person conceals the salmon from plain view or transfers the salmon from the fishing site. A person may not sell or purchase salmon from which both lobes of the tail fin have been removed.

For additional information:
- ADF&G Steve Hayes in Anchorage 907-267-2383; Fred Bue, Fairbanks 907-459-7274; or Emmonak 907-949-1320
- Subsistence Fishing Schedule-1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call 459-7387
- USFWS: Russ Holder in Fairbanks 907-455-1849 or 1-800-801-5108; or in Emmonak 907-949-1798
NOAA Fisheries recently announced the release of the Bush Administration’s “National Offshore Aquaculture Act of 2007.” The legislation, which was introduced by the House Natural Resources Committee in April, is the cornerstone of the agency’s attempts to develop and expand aquaculture in the United States. According to NOAA, expanded aquaculture production is “necessary” to increase domestic seafood production and to reduce U.S. reliance on imported aquaculture products, balancing out our seafood trade deficit and increasing our food security.

The Act is a revision of the 2005 Act, which was uniformly rejected by fishermen and environmental groups alike. While the 2007 Act is some improvement over the earlier version, it still leaves much to be desired. Offshore aquaculture involves raising fish or shellfish in offshore fish farms located in federal waters from 3 to 200 miles offshore (states control the waters from 0 to 3 miles offshore). In Alaska, fish farming of finfish (which includes salmon) is illegal. Despite the state prohibition, the Act would allow fish farming in waters beyond 3 miles offshore. While the Act does allow an opt out for states, this provision only allows coastal states to opt out of new aquaculture facilities sited within 12 miles of the coastline! The Act also places jurisdiction and permitting responsibility in the hands of NOAA and not in the realm of the Regional Fishery Management Councils which have jurisdiction over all other federal marine fisheries.

Alaskans have banned finfish aquaculture from state waters for good reason – fish farms pose a number of threats to wild fish stocks and marine waters. Because farmed fish are housed in net pens in the open ocean, contamination from these pens is released into the ocean – a salmon farm of 200,000 fish releases fecal matter roughly equivalent to the untreated sewage of 65,000 people, and many salmon farms are 4 to 5 times this big.

Farmed fish can also escape from net pens, mixing with wild stocks and potentially impacting the genetic make-up of wild stocks, as well as competing with them for habitat and food. Escapes are far from a rarity – more than one million salmon have escaped from Washington fish farms since production began there: 613,000 in just four years in the late 1990’s. Most farmed salmon are Atlantic salmon, which disrupt wild Pacific salmon in their spawning streams and spread diseases and parasites to wild fish. In British Columbia, Scotland, Norway and Ireland escaped farmed salmon have already been found colonizing wild salmon rivers. The risk is even greater given the potential introduction of genetically engineered salmon, which the FDA is currently considering permitting.

Expanded fish farming of carnivorous species (several species of salmon, blackcod, tuna and other fish that feed on smaller fish) will have impacts throughout the food chain as increased levels of fish must be harvested to provide feed for them. One pound of farmed fish requires 5 pounds of wild-caught fish on average. For species such as tuna it can take up to 20 pounds of wild fish to produce 1 pound of farmed fish.

Alaska has fought hard to build markets for wild Alaska salmon. Fish farms in Alaska would not only raise questions about our wild stocks and create confusion over the sustainability of our products, but would directly compete with wild Alaska fish in the market-place. Farmed salmon already represents the primary competition for wild Alaska salmon under current production – expanded aquaculture would only increase this competition.

Many Alaska fisheries groups, including the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, are opposing the National Offshore Aquaculture Act as written. Governor Palin recently requested that a five year moratorium on new fish farm operations be put in place until further research has been conducted on the environmental and socio-economic impacts of industrial aquaculture. She also asked that the states and Regional Fishery Management Councils be given a say in management and permitting of aquaculture facilities and that farming of carnivorous finfish species such as salmon, halibut and sablefish be prohibited.

To provide input on this important issue, send a letter to Governor Palin, Senators Stevens and Murkowski or Representative Young to ban open ocean aquaculture of carnivorous species permanently and protect our wild salmon stocks!

For more information on the 2007 Aquaculture Act see: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter/aquaculture/offshore.htm

For further information on the problems with salmon aquaculture see: www.foodandwaterwatch.org/fish OR www.puresalmon.org
SUCCESSFUL SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL YUKON RIVER SALMON PANEL IN FAIRBANKS

The Yukon River Panel, as mandated by the U.S./Canada Yukon River Salmon Agreement, met in Fairbanks on April 4 and 5 to determine the 2007 international management arrangements for Yukon River fall chum and Chinook salmon stocks of Canadian origin throughout the length of the Yukon River in Alaska and Yukon Territory.

The Panel allocated $US1.2 million for 41 salmon and habitat Restoration and Enhancement Fund projects in both Alaska and Yukon Territory; recommended priorities for 2008 resource management and research projects; and established specific escapement guidelines for the management of these salmon stocks in 2007.

Despite many contentious issues throughout the 16-year negotiating process, the Panel has set an example for cooperatively sharing and managing international salmon stocks, with direct involvement of community representatives. The Panel, which operates under the umbrella of the Pacific Salmon Treaty, consists of 12 Alaska and Yukon Territory residents from throughout the Yukon River system, supported by regional advisors, and agency scientists and managers from Canada and the United States.

As a priority, the Panel has allocated $US1.5 million during the past decade to community-based projects, including stewardship projects, directly supporting the management and recovery of Yukon River salmon stocks originating in Canada. In 2007, these projects include test fisheries and population monitoring projects in the Marshall, Kaltag, and Rampart Rapids areas in Alaska; and in communities within the Yukon River drainage in Yukon Territory, both along the Yukon River mainstem and tributaries, such as the Porcupine River.

Other restoration and enhancement projects involve the application of developing technologies supportive of the management regime. These include monitoring genetic stock composition of salmon harvested, and advanced salmon run counting techniques using sonar stations at the US-Canada border and within the Canadian portion of the system.

Upon reviewing the 2006 salmon runs and fisheries, the Panel found that salmon stocks are generally improving, and the runs returned in 2006 stronger than expected. Similar runs are expected in 2007, hopefully contributed to by the Panel’s recent stock rebuilding conservation measures. Management measures planned for 2007 envision subsistence (in Alaska), aboriginal (in Yukon Territory), sport and limited commercial fisheries for both the Chinook and fall chum stocks of Canadian origin.

The Panel also acknowledged allocation and escapement objectives set by the Panel have been met and exceeded in recent years, assisted by the use of new and improved technology supported by the Panel’s Restoration and Enhancement Fund.

Contacts: Elizabeth Andrews (907) 465-4147 and Frank Quinn (867) 393-6719, Yukon River Panel Co-chairs.
## Yukon River Panel 2007 Restoration & Enhancement Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Proponent</th>
<th>SUS/Scdn Req.</th>
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<td>URE-05-07</td>
<td>Marshall Chinook Test Fishery</td>
<td>A/C/DF/G</td>
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<td>URE-06-07</td>
<td>Kaltag Fall Chinook Drift Gillnet Test Fishery</td>
<td>City of Kaltag</td>
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<td>URE-07-07</td>
<td>Gillnet Catch Comp (ASLWG) – Lwr Ykn Riv TF</td>
<td>A/Y/TA</td>
<td>10,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>URE-08-07</td>
<td>Tech Assist, Dev &amp; Support – Fish Wheel Video</td>
<td>USFWS</td>
<td>5,500</td>
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<td>URE-09-07</td>
<td>Rampart-Rapids Full Season Video Monitoring</td>
<td>Stan Zuny</td>
<td>39,000</td>
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<td>URE-10-07</td>
<td>Yukon River Chinook Aging Consistency</td>
<td>ADF&amp;G</td>
<td>28,500</td>
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<td>URE-11-07</td>
<td>Analysis DNA Samples Lower Yukon River</td>
<td>ADF&amp;G</td>
<td>18,750</td>
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<td>URE-13-07</td>
<td>Ichthyophonus Sampling at Enmonak</td>
<td>ADF&amp;G</td>
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<td>CRE-06-07</td>
<td>Spawning &amp; Overwintering Access Rest - N Klond. Riv</td>
<td>DDRRC</td>
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<td>CRE-07-07</td>
<td>First Fish Youth Camp</td>
<td>Tr'ondek Hwch'in FN</td>
<td>/ 3,500</td>
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<td>CRE-08-07</td>
<td>Dawson Salmon Celebration</td>
<td>YR/C</td>
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<td>CRE-09-07</td>
<td>Tr'ondek Hwch'in Student Steward</td>
<td>Tr'ondek Hwch'in FN</td>
<td>/ 4,600</td>
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<td>CRE-10-07</td>
<td>Size Selective Fishing using Live Catch Fishwheels</td>
<td>YRCF Assoc</td>
<td>/47,600</td>
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<td>CRE-11-07</td>
<td>2006 In-Season Management Fund</td>
<td>YRCF Assoc &amp; THFN</td>
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<td>CRE-19-07</td>
<td>Mayo Riv Channel Recon–Assess Juv Chin Hab-3</td>
<td>FN NND</td>
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<td>CRE-27-07</td>
<td>Porcupine River Chum Mark/Recapture Project</td>
<td>Vuntut Gwich'in FN</td>
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<td>CRE-28-07</td>
<td>Porcupine River Chinook DNA Sampling</td>
<td>Vuntut Gwich'in FN</td>
<td>/ 3,000</td>
<td>P/R/A</td>
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<td>CRE-29-07</td>
<td>Chum Spawning Ground Recoveries – Minto Area</td>
<td>Selkirk R &amp; SFN</td>
<td>/12,000</td>
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<td>CRE-31-07</td>
<td>Pelly River Sub-basin Community Stewardship</td>
<td>Selkirk R &amp; SFN</td>
<td>/23,000</td>
<td>A/P/R</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-37-07</td>
<td>Blind Creek Chinook Salmon Enumeration Weir</td>
<td>Jane Wilson &amp; Assoc.</td>
<td>/46,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-41-07</td>
<td>Chinook Sonar Enumeration Big Salmon River</td>
<td>Jane Wilson &amp; Assoc.</td>
<td>/75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-47-07</td>
<td>Teslin River Sub-Basin Stewardship</td>
<td>Teslin Tlingit Council</td>
<td>/38,000</td>
<td>A/P/R</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-50-07</td>
<td>KDFN Salmon Stewardship</td>
<td>Kwanlin Dun FN</td>
<td>/26,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-51-07</td>
<td>Supplemental Juv. Chinook Plantings – Michic Cr.</td>
<td>Kwanlin Dun FN</td>
<td>/9,100</td>
<td>A/P/R</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-52-07</td>
<td>Fox Creek Chinook Stock Restoration</td>
<td>Taa Knwakh Cncl</td>
<td>/12,500</td>
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<td>CRE-54-07</td>
<td>Taan Kwachian Council Community Steward</td>
<td>Taan Kwachian Cncl</td>
<td>/45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-58-07</td>
<td>Community Salmon Stewardship – KFN Territory</td>
<td>Klune First Nation</td>
<td>/15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-61-07</td>
<td>Helicopter Release Chinook Fry from Whs Hatchery</td>
<td>R&amp;D Environ. Mgmt</td>
<td>/ 6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-62-07</td>
<td>Rel of Chin Incubation Success &amp; Thermal Regime</td>
<td>Trix Tanner &amp; Student</td>
<td>/ 3,600</td>
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<td>CRE-63-07</td>
<td>Whitehorse Rapids Hatchery Coded Wire Tagging</td>
<td>YFS&amp;G Assoc</td>
<td>/40,000</td>
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<td>CRE-65-07</td>
<td>McIntyre Creek Salmon Incubation Project</td>
<td>NIR Yukon College</td>
<td>/44,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-67-07</td>
<td>Yukon Schools Fry Releases &amp; Habitat studies</td>
<td>Streamkeepers Nor Soc</td>
<td>/ 4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRE-77-07</td>
<td>Value-Added Fish Processing Facility</td>
<td>YR Salmon Coop</td>
<td>120,000 /133,500</td>
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<td>CRE-78-07</td>
<td>Collection of DNA Baseline Samples YR in Canada</td>
<td>DFO</td>
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<td>CRE-79-07</td>
<td>Stock ID Microsatellite Variation – Chin &amp; Chum</td>
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<td>/30,000</td>
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<td>CRE-80-07</td>
<td>Data Loggers for R&amp;E Projects &amp; Support</td>
<td>DFO</td>
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<td>CRE-87-07</td>
<td>Yukon Stewardship Program</td>
<td>Yukon F&amp;W Service</td>
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<td>CRE-98-07</td>
<td>Scientific Peer Review - Yukon Placer Regime</td>
<td>Yukon Conserv. Soc.</td>
<td>/ 8,000</td>
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<td>CRE-110-07</td>
<td>Canadian Involvement in Eagle Sonar Program</td>
<td>DFO</td>
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<td>Analysis DNA Samples from R&amp;E Projects - Cdn</td>
<td>DFO</td>
<td>/20,000</td>
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### 41 R&E Projects

1. *N* - identifies a new R&E project.
2. The amount expressed in $US or $Cdn as per the request/application, rounded to the nearest $100, with the totals calculated on an exchange rate of $1Cdn=$.890US.
3. Technical Contact: lead technical reviewer for the conceptual proposal, detailed project proposal, and ongoing lead technical contact for the conduct and review of the project report.
4. USFWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service
5. AVCP – Association of Village Council Presidents
6. YF&G A – Yukon Fish and Game Association
7. ADF&G – Alaska Department of Fish & Game

**Yukon River Panel News**

**2007 Restoration & Enhancement Projects**

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**Yukon River Panel News**

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**Yukon Fisheries News**

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**Yukon Fish and Wildlife Board**

**Yukon Fish and Wildlife Service**

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**Yukon River Panel**

**Yukon Fish and Wildlife Board**

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**Yukon Fisheries News**
YUKON RIVER PANEL
WORKS TO LIMIT BYCATCH

Earlier this year, members of the Yukon River Panel attended the Salmon Bycatch Workshop organized by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Afterward, Panel members sent the following letter expressing their concerns and stance on the bycatch issue.

May 4, 2007

Chris Oliver, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Mr. Oliver:

Thank you for the invitation and opportunity for several of our Panel representatives to attend the recent Salmon Bycatch Workshop hosted by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) of the NPFMC in Anchorage on March 27, 2007. We appreciated becoming more informed of existing research and stock-origins of salmon caught in BSAI trawl fisheries and to testify before the SSC.

The SSC assessment that there was insufficient information to develop a recommendation for the Council regarding biomass-based “triggers” or “caps” increases our concern that the Council may continue to defer addressing this important issue. This may not be a conservation concern that the SSC can address, but we agree with the assessment by Dr. Franz Muter that there are fairness and allocation concerns which the Council should address.

As an international advisory body of fishermen and managers from Alaska and the Yukon Territory established under the Yukon River Salmon Agreement, Yukon River Panel members remain extremely concerned with the record high numbers of salmon which have been caught in the BSAI trawl fishery in 2007. These numbers continue the trend of high bycatch numbers which has been developing and increasing over the last several years. This trend is inconsistent with the US/Canada Yukon River Agreement (12), Attachment B, Annex IV, Chapter 8 of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. The Agreement states:

*The Parties shall maintain efforts to increase the in-river run of Yukon River origin salmon by reducing marine catches and by-catches of Yukon River salmon. They shall further identify, quantify and undertake efforts to reduce these catches and bycatches.*

Increasing salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea is a reallocation of the in-river return of Yukon River salmon destined for communities along the Yukon River in Alaska and in the Yukon Territory in Canada. We are not opposed to responsibly managed sustainable fisheries; however, we are opposed to reallocation of the Western Alaska salmon resources without representation and assessment. To date, superficial economic comparison of the value of the fish has been used to justify the increasing Bering Sea salmon bycatch. We believe this assessment is incomplete and should be expanded to include biological, social, cultural, and spiritual impacts to Yukon River drainage residents.
We have heard the recent high bycatch amounts indicate significant increases in Western Alaska salmon populations. Although this may be true, it is inconsistent with the observed size of the Yukon River Chinook salmon in-river run from 1990 to 1997. Yukon River Chinook salmon runs during this period provided fish to meet escapement objectives, achieved subsistence harvest goals, and provided for commercial fisheries averaging more than 100,000 Chinook salmon. During this same time period, the Bering Sea bycatch averaged 41,000 Chinook salmon per year.

Although in recent years (2002-2006) Yukon River Chinook salmon escapement goals were met and subsistence harvests achieved, the commercial harvest of Chinook salmon decreased approximately 60% to an average of 40,000 salmon, somewhat commensurate with the run size. During this same time period, however, the Bering Sea bycatch averaged approximately 65,000 Chinook salmon per year and has increased 10-fold over the 2000 harvest and every year since 2003. Further, a record harvest of 75,000 Chinook salmon was taken in the groundfish fishery in 2005, only to be surpassed in 2006 by a new bycatch record harvest of 88,000 Chinook salmon.

Such dramatic increases in the Yukon River Chinook salmon run size have not been observed. Indeed, the Chinook salmon runs returning to the Yukon River have fluctuated in size since 2001. This information does not demonstrate that increased Chinook salmon bycatch translates into increased Yukon in-river Chinook salmon runs. It does appear, however, that the harvest rate by the groundfish fishery on Chinook salmon is steadily increasing at an alarming rate.

The Chinook salmon bycatch during 2007 may approach 100,000 salmon since more than 77,000 Chinook salmon have already been taken during the “A” season alone. Therefore, we urgently request the Council immediately initiate meaningful approaches to dramatically lower the salmon catch-level triggers for closing groundfish fisheries, utilizing a numerical limit on the total number of salmon which can be caught. We understand the Council’s Salmon Bycatch Workgroup is discussing these and other issues and will be making recommendations to the Council.

It is our position that any new approach to limit salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea be consistent with the treaty requirement to “increase the in-river run of Yukon River origin salmon by reducing marine catches and by-catches of Yukon River salmon” which is contained in the US/Canada Yukon River Agreement, December 2002. We also request the bycatch harvest numbers since 2002 not be included in development of new catch-level triggers because we believe including those figures would be inconsistent in spirit and substance with the Yukon River Salmon Agreement.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our concerns with you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Andrews
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Frank Quinn
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
### YRDFA FY 08 Projects

(July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Collaborators</th>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Changing Fish Size</td>
<td>Arctic Science Fishes (BSFA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF), and Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)</td>
<td>National Oceanic &amp; Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</td>
<td>Some fisheries who live on the river and its tributaries have noticed that the size of harvested Chinook salmon is decreasing over time, while others have not noticed this trend. Given the importance of this matter and the potential impacts to the salmon fishery, several non-governmental organizations and government agencies have become involved to discuss this issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Classroom Activity Guide: YR Salmon Agreement</td>
<td>USFWS</td>
<td>YR Panel</td>
<td>YRDFA will create an activity guide to supplement the Yukon River Salmon Agreement Handbook with the intention of making the Handbook more useful to Yukon River community schools to encourage its hands-on use. YRDFA dedicates staff (Mike McDougall, Fishery Biologist) time to assist with teaching and facilitating the Andeatsky Science Camp conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for two weeks during the summer of 2007. The main goal of this project is to foster a sense of knowledge and stewardship in local youth towards Yukon River fisheries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Climate Data Research and Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>This task will analyze relationships and/or patterns between documented TEK, environmental data, and historical salmon abundance estimates. Trends over time will be analyzed to get an idea of general patterns in the data. Quantitative environmental data used in the analysis will include historical stream water temperature and flow, air temperature, wind speed and direction, dates of river freeze-up and break-up, and flood and fire events, where available. This data will then be analyzed to find patterns that explore ecological relationships associated with salmon run variability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Co-management Research</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>One of the goals of YRDFA is to take a stronger role in co-management of the Yukon River salmon fishery. YRDFA will explore already-established examples of co-management relationships and the potential for its more effective role on the Yukon River. Co-management enhances communication between fishers and managers and help each group to understand the other's perspective. The knowledge they both bring to the management table will result in a more sustainable fishery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hatchery Production Advocacy &amp; Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>Output from Alaska's private nonprofit (PPO) hatcheries has increased dramatically since the mid-1990s, which has potentially helped to eliminate the roe market for Upper Yukon River fishers. Once an important part of the mixed-cash economy, roe prices are now so low due to the influx of hatchery fish that a roe fishery in the Upper Yukon River is not economically possible. At the same time, increased hatchery output has profound biological implications. While we are still studying the precise interactions, it is clear that hatchery fish compete with wild salmon stocks for food in the marine environment. The carrying capacity of the ocean may be finite, and increasing production of hatchery fish directly impacts the nutrition available for wild stocks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hire Local Technicians</td>
<td>ADFG, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)</td>
<td>Southeast Sustainable Salmon Recovery Fund (SSSF), ADFG Office of Subsistence Management (OSM); RieFl Fund</td>
<td>YRDFA-hired fishery technicians will assist ADFG and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on in-season assessment and monitoring projects. Technicians will be placed at the Emmonak test fisheries; Y-4 genetics project in Nulato, Galena, and Ruby; Tse'itna weir; and Eagle sonar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ichthyophonus Education Booklet</td>
<td>ADFG Fish Pathology Lab</td>
<td>YR Panel; RieFl Fund</td>
<td>Through local presentations/workshops and the creation of a fish parasite booklet, fishers will be able to make better decisions on whether to retain or discard subsistence-caught fish based on whether or not parasites (and what types of parasites) might be present in the fish. Fishers will also learn which parasites pose no threat to humans and/or how to safely prepare fish for consumption. As an extension project, no additional funds will be necessary for FY 08. It is anticipated that the booklet will be ready for distribution in July 2007.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. In-Season Harvest Interviews</td>
<td>USFWS</td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>YRDFA assists with the hiring of interviewers in local Yukon River communities to assist USFWS in in-season salmon interviews. Interviewers receive preseason training, on-site mentoring, and postseason reviews. This year we will be working with the communities of Emmonak, Marshall, Huslia, Galena, and Eagle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Kaltag Fishery Development Project</td>
<td>Kaltag Fishermen’s Association</td>
<td>SSSF</td>
<td>The main purpose of this project is to identify critical fish habitat, in regards to both rearing and migration throughout their lifecycle, through interviews and site reconnaissance in the Koyukuk River drainage. Maps will be created based on information provided during interviews conducted in Kaltag. Maps will be produced using GIS software. YRDFA will partner or contract with an entity to create maps based on the qualitative information collected in the communities of Kaltag and Hughes and from a site reconnaissance trip on the Atigun River.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Mapping of Fish Habitat within Koyukuk River Drainage</td>
<td>Allakaket/Alatna &amp; Hughes Tribal Council</td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>This project seeks to understand the historical abundance, distribution, and health of salmon populations in subsistence fishing communities in the lower Yukon River drainage through the documentation and incorporation of local and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). Data gained from key respondent interviews will be analyzed to understand the correlations between TEK data and salmon population dynamics. This project will span across four fiscal years (FY 06-09) in the five communities of Hooper Bay, Emmonak, St. Mary’s, Grayling, and Kaltag. This research will primarily address the question of how TEK can increase our understanding of the changes in the abundance, distribution, and health of salmon populations, essentially linking TEK with conventional approaches to fisheries research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Natural Indicators of Salmon Run Abundance &amp; Timing</td>
<td>ADFG</td>
<td>Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative (AYK-SSSI)</td>
<td>This project seeks to understand the historical abundance, distribution, and health of salmon populations in subsistence fishing communities in the lower Yukon River drainage through the documentation and incorporation of local and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). Data gained from key respondent interviews will be analyzed to understand the correlations between TEK data and salmon population dynamics. This project will span across four fiscal years (FY 06-09) in the five communities of Hooper Bay, Emmonak, St. Mary’s, Grayling, and Kaltag. This research will primarily address the question of how TEK can increase our understanding of the changes in the abundance, distribution, and health of salmon populations, essentially linking TEK with conventional approaches to fisheries research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROJECT TITLE</td>
<td>COLLABORATORS</td>
<td>FUNDING SOURCE</td>
<td>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Policy Advocacy &amp; Monitoring</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>A broad range of agencies, boards, and councils make decisions impacting Yukon River salmon and Yukon River salmon fisheries. Given the time, finances and travel required, tracking all of these entities and their decision making processes is prohibitive for most Yukon River fisheries. Through this task YRDFA seeks to represent Yukon River fishers at the numerous state, federal, and international boards, councils, and agencies that make decisions impacting the Yukon River, the salmon, and communities, as well as at conferences and in alliances concerning salmon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Regional Marketing Program</td>
<td>Yukon River processors</td>
<td>SSSF</td>
<td>This project is a continuation of the regional marketing efforts started two years ago by YRDFA. The funds will enable marketing to continue through pre-season and in-season advertising for the 2007 fishing season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Salmon Bycatch Advocacy and Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>The primary goal of this project is to reduce salmon by-catch in the Bering Sea-Alutian Islands (BSAI) pollock fishery. The secondary goals are to build YRDFA's capacity for implementing changes in the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council and to strengthen alliances with other salmon, tribal, and marine conservation groups in Alaska and internationally to strengthen our ability to conserve Yukon River salmon in the marine environment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Salmon Fisheries Communication &amp; Outreach</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>YRDFA aims to provide an opportunity for diverse groups of people involved in salmon fisheries along the Yukon River to experience regional and cultural differences regarding fisheries issues, understand fisheries management techniques, and appreciate the various concerns of people that rely on this valuable resource. Therefore, disseminating information on current fishery issues of concern is important to understanding how the salmon resource is being utilized, managed, and sustained. This information helps fishers and villagers in the Alaska portion of the Yukon River drainage to become more knowledgeable about their salmon fisheries and improves communication between fishers, managers, and all with a vested interest in Yukon River salmon fisheries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Stock Monitoring</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>While the responsibility of in-season monitoring is charged to a combination of both the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it is important for YRDFA to have a fisheries biologist to review this information and be a part of discussions on in-season management. As a representative of all Yukon River fishers, it is YRDFA's responsibility to validate the effectiveness of state and federal management practices and raise an independent, scientific voice for the fishers of the Yukon River. Monitoring state and federal management entities will help ensure that Yukon River salmon are managed sustainably and for the benefit of Yukon River residents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Subsistence Assistance</td>
<td>Yukon River communities</td>
<td>ADFG</td>
<td>YRDFA-hired project assistants facilitate ADFG post-season harvest subsistence surveys. Assistants will provide logistical and administrative support to ADFG surveyors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 TEK Information Gathering</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>This project will allow YRDFA's Anthropologist, Catherine Moncrieff, to communicate with fishers to better represent them and to hear their concerns specifically related to traditional ecological knowledge (TEK). Tangible outcomes will include communication and participation in meetings and conferences, publications, reports, and new project proposals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 US/Canada Information &amp; Outreach</td>
<td>ADFG</td>
<td>USFWS</td>
<td>By way of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, YRDFA receives treaty implementation funds which support the efforts of the international Yukon River Salmon Agreement. With these funds, YRDFA conducts activities to disseminate information and education on the Agreement, the Yukon River Panel, and salmon management in general. This includes publishing the YRDFA newsletters and sponsoring YRDFA's annual meeting, among other information and outreach projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 V-2 Fishery Development</td>
<td>Boreal Fisheries</td>
<td>SSSF</td>
<td>This project is an economic development opportunity to assist with the establishment of a commercial chum salmon fishery in part of the lower Yukon River. The specific Alaska Department of Fish &amp; Game (ADF&amp;G) regulatory designation for the area is V-2. Boreal Fisheries Inc., which operates a plant just outside the village of Saint Mary's and Pitkas Point, along the Yukon River, purchases salmon from lower Yukon River fishermen residing in these and other neighboring villages. The YRDFA Board of Directors and ADF&amp;G have stressed the importance of aiding the commercial fisheries in this part of the Yukon River in order to revitalize the Yukon River Wild Alaska Salmon name in the marketplace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 YRDFA Capacity Building</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>YRDFA will work with local people to learn about their fisheries goals in order to develop a needs assessment document that will help guide future work for the Yukon River. Carrying out a needs assessment will enable YRDFA to learn more about regional needs and regional activities, which may be developed into new projects that will help achieve sustainable fisheries. Communities will also learn from YRDFA staff about what is going on related to salmon research in the larger scientific communities and then help blend scientific and local knowledge together to determine the best approach for moving forward with achieving sustainable fisheries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 YRDFA Program Reporting, Oversight, and Development</td>
<td></td>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>Program development will continue to take place in order for YRDFA's current projects to be useful to the larger scientific community, as well as to the local people relying on the salmon fisheries. In July-August 2007, Alaskans will visit communities in the Yukon Territory, Canada, to have the opportunity to interact with local fishers, witness test fisheries, observe commercial fishing openings, spend time at fish camps, talk to agency personnel, and meet with First Nation representatives &amp; Elders. The program allows information sharing between participants, local guides, and host community members regarding different types of fisheries, the Yukon River Salmon Agreement and YR Panel, management issues, salmon biology, and status &amp; health of salmon stocks; differences in age, migration, cultural background, and past fisheries experience among those involved broadens the range of shared knowledge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Yukon River Educational Exchange, Part II</td>
<td>Yukon River communities</td>
<td>YR Panel</td>
<td>Weekly teleconferences facilitated by YRDFA (every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. from May 29 to mid-September) bring together state and federal managers, tribal and First Nation representatives, subsistence and commercial fishers to discuss progression of the salmon returns and fisheries management options.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At its 17th Annual Meeting in Pilot Station from February 26 through March 1, the YRDFA Board of Directors, as well as participants from all fishing districts, discussed planning and spending priorities for YRDFA. The YRDFA staff and board will continue to review these suggestions and prioritize them based on our strategic direction.

• Diversify funding sources for the Association
• Increase YRDFA’s membership
• Continue to address the declining fish size issue
• Incorporate a Canadian non-voting representative on the YRDFA Board of Directors
• Conduct outreach and information sharing and provide educational programs based on Yukon River salmon fisheries
• Collaborate with agencies, the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, and other stakeholders
• Pursue marketing of salmon
• Build commonality along the Yukon River
• Ensure accuracy and transparency in fisheries management and data
• Support subsistence fishery
• Revitalize commercial fishery, specifically district Y-4A
• Protect salmon as one-river for future generations
• Conserve and restore salmon habitat
• Conduct scientific studies utilizing local hires
• Ensure accuracy and transparency in fisheries management and stock composition, salmon distribution, and the relationship between salmon abundance and salmon bycatch; and management measures at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council that will effectively reduce the number of salmon caught as bycatch, including explicit limits on the total number of salmon that may be caught as bycatch.

Resolution 2007-02 regarding hatcheries and roe stripping whereby YRDFA opposes the allowing of roe stripping in hatcheries and supports setting specific limits on hatchery production and decreasing funding and loans to private nonprofit hatcheries.

Resolution 2007-03 regarding nuclear power whereby YRDFA opposes the installation and operation of a nuclear power facility in Galena, Alaska, and anywhere else within the Yukon River drainage. YRDFA also opposes storage, transport, and experimentation with radioactive materials in the Yukon River drainage.

Resolution 2007-04 gratefully thanking the people of Pilot Station, the Pilot Station school, the City, and the Tribal Council for their generosity and hospitality for hosting YRDFA’s 17th Annual Meeting.

Resolution 2007-05 regarding mixing zones in fish spawning areas and non-natal areas whereby YRDFA does not support allowing mixing zones at any time of the year, under any conditions in the Yukon River drainage and its tributaries.

Resolution 2007-06 regarding Pebble Mine whereby YRDFA has concerns over the development and implementation of the proposed Pebble Mine.

Resolution 2007-07 regarding effects of subsistence windows whereby YRDFA does not support current regulations requiring elder subsistence users to adhere to the subsistence windows schedule. YRDFA supports creating an exemption to allow elders to fish 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the Yukon River drainage.

Resolution 2007-08 regarding Executive Order 107 whereby YRDFA supports the reversal of Executive Order 107 and supports the incorporation of the Habitat Division into the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

YRDFA Holds Successful Raffle

At the annual meeting, YRDFA held a raffle with proceeds to benefit YRDFA’s membership. Thanks to everyone, including meeting participants and Pilot Station community members, who bought tickets. The raffle generated $1,000!

YRDFA would especially like to thank the following companies and individuals for donating raffle items:

• Artique Ltd.
• Bambi Peters, Marshall
• Costco Wholesale
• Days Inn, Anchorage
• Deb Wessler, Anchorage
• Hageland Aviation Services
• Jan Woodruff, Eagle
• National Audubon Society
• Reed’s Snowmachine & Marine
• Sam’s Club, Fairbanks
• Wright Air Service
YRDFA STAFF ATTEND THE RIVER RALLY

STEVENSON, WA. - The River Rally, hosted by the River Network, is an event that brings together people from all over the United States who are working to protect and restore waterways with local, state, and national efforts. It is a unique learning and training opportunity for professional and volunteer river and watershed leaders.

YRDFA was able to send Jill Klein, Executive Director, to participate. With support from the True North Foundation, Casey Peavy, YRDFA Program Assistant, was also able to attend as an Alaska Native working with the Yukon River.

There were ten tracks offered throughout the four day gathering. The tracks that Casey and Jill focused on were mainly about developing organizational skills and strategies, as well as learning about membership development and fundraising planning. There were also tracks on river health, education and communication, restoring streams and climate change. Below are the staff excerpts from their experiences at the rally.

CASEY PEAVY: The River Rally was so great! It was a good opportunity for me to

network, and to learn a lot of new strategies for developing our YRDFA membership. I was lucky to be able to go down to the Rally a day early for the Indigenous Water Network’s Tribal gathering. For me, one of the highlights of the Tribal gathering was a talking circle on global climate change that we had at the end of the day. Many people shared first-hand experiences of changes in the weather and environment that they have seen in their lifetimes. Lots of powerful words were shared. The Tribal gathering was also beneficial in that I got to hear what many indigenous people around the nation are doing to protect or restore their watersheds.

Some of the workshops I attended at the River Rally were: cross-cultural communication, outreach tips, monthly giving, strategic storytelling, and membership basics. I found most of the workshops very informative and relevant to the work that we at YRDFA are doing.

Many thanks to True North for funding most of the cost of my Rally attendance and to YRDFA for their matching support. I am so grateful that I was able to attend, and I look forward to going again next year!

JILL KLEIN: This was my first River Rally and it was great to attend it in such a magnificent location as the Columbia River Gorge and to learn firsthand about the salmon issues in the Pacific Northwest. The tracks I attended on strategic planning, fundraising planning, and organizational development were led by nonprofit professionals with years of experience. I believe the knowledge I gained will help me become a better nonprofit Executive Director who will lead YRDFA down a successful path.

Additionally, I went on a field trip to see the Sandy River dam, which will be the first major hydroelectric project removed in the Northwest.

The River Rally was informative, a lot of fun, there were great people, and I hope other staff and Yukon River residents can attend in the future.
Yukon Fisheries News

spring 2007

www.yukonsalmon.org

YR DFA SAYS GOOD-BYE...

Jason Hale joins YRDFA as the new Communications and Outreach Specialist. Jason is new to Alaska, having recently moved from coastal North Carolina. His past experience has been with outreach and program management in the fields of recycling and solid waste. Jason has a degree in Commerce from the University of Virginia, and he thoroughly enjoys backpacking, hiking, and paddling.

Four years ago YR DFA welcomed me into the organization and now this July I say good-bye. I am heading down a different career path and will be moving to North Carolina to attend Duke University’s Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. I have enjoyed working with the people of the Yukon and thank all of you for a valuable experience. While working for YR DFA I had the opportunity to visit 14 river communities and meet many wonderful people while eating strips from Emmonak to Dawson! I also learned how to drive a boat on the Yukon and mush dogs on its frozen waters. It was during those times that I learned the true worth of salmon – its ability to sustain life and bring people together. I wish you the best this fishing season and for many fishing seasons to come!

YR DFA also says good-bye to fisheries biologist Kristin Mull as she starts a new job with the Bureau of Land Management in Fairbanks. While at YR DFA Kristin lent her scientific skills to promote a sustainable salmon fishery by being a member of the Joint Technical Subcommittee for the Yukon River Panel; helping to assess the changing fish size issue; participating in ADF&G pre-season, in-season, post-season meetings; and providing scientific analysis of salmon stocks, among many other things. She also led a field-based research project to develop a GIS-based method to predict the use of stream habitat by juvenile Chinook salmon using the Salcha and Goodpaster rivers as test cases. We thank Kristin for her hard work. She will be missed as a voice for the Yukon River.

...AND WELCOMES TWO NEW FACES

Darcy King

Tori Evans

Tori Evans is a summer intern at YR DFA until August 12. She is a student at the University of Virginia, where she studies Anthropology and Environmental Science. She enjoys yoga, horseback riding, and community service. At YR DFA she assists Catherine Moncrieff in research and interviews about traditional ecological knowledge. This summer she plans to explore Alaska, see wildlife and meet as many friendly people as she can.

KRISTIN MULL

Jason Hale

Jason Hale joins YR DFA as the new Communications and Outreach Specialist. Jason is new to Alaska, having recently moved from coastal North Carolina. His past experience has been with outreach and program management in the fields of recycling and solid waste. Jason has a degree in Commerce from the University of Virginia, and he thoroughly enjoys backpacking, hiking, and paddling.
YUKON RIVER INTER-TRIBAL WATERSHED COUNCIL AND PLANETWALK TO PADDLE 1,500 MILES DOWN THE YUKON RIVER TO UNITE CULTURES AND PROTECT ENVIRONMENT

On June 22, 2007, the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council (YRITWC) and Planetwalk will hold opening ceremonies to initiate the Healing Journey, a celebration of culture, a call to action, and an urgent message to the world.

Fulfilling an ancient prophecy, the Journey will start with traditional canoes and contemporary boats in Dawson, Yukon Territory, Canada on June 22 and travel approximately 1,500 miles downriver, visiting all indigenous communities along the way. Visits will include a traditional meal and cultural exchange, dancing and drumming, and a talking circle to begin to mend the past and forge a commitment to a common future based on environmental stewardship and healthy communities. A traditional Tlingit dugout canoe has been carved by the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe and will be dedicated to the YRITWC in honor of the Healing Journey.

The event will highlight past YRITWC successes including removing and recycling over 3.5 million pounds of hazardous waste out of the Yukon River watershed, establishing a Tribal water quality monitoring program in collaboration with the United States Geological Survey, and receiving “High Honors” from Harvard University’s Honoring Nations Program. The Journey will also draw attention to indigenous peoples’ concerns and experiences with climate change while sharing innovative solutions such as renewable energy and resource management based on traditional knowledge.

Dr. John Francis, United Nations Environment Program Goodwill Ambassador and Director of Planetwalk, will be participating in the Journey and sharing this effort through his global network. Dr. Francis, author of Planetwalker: How to Change Your World One Step At A Time, has walked across North America and much of South America, and will continue his long distance travels on the Healing Journey, working with the indigenous peoples in the Yukon River watershed.

The Healing Journey will begin on summer solstice at the site of the last YRITWC Summit, held two years ago, and culminate August 9-13, 2007, at the 10 year anniversary Summit of the YRITWC in St. Mary’s, Alaska. As the Healing Journey travels downriver, each participating community will share observations and concerns related to climate change, all of which will be documented and brought to the Summit in St. Mary’s. Along with Dr. John Francis, keynote speakers at the Summit will include Winona LaDuke, Chief Oren Lyons, and Billy Frank.

The Healing Journey and Summit are being sponsored in part by National Geographic Society, First Nations Development Institute, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Alaska Conservation Foundation.

For more information, contact Rob Rosenfeld, YRITWC Director, 907-388-2683; Jon Waterhouse, YRITWC Assistant Director, 907-258-3337; Suzanne d’Coney, PlanetWalk Coordinator, 415-298-0337.

YUKON RIVER DRAINAGE FISHERIES ASSOCIATION

“A united voice for downriver and upriver fishermen.”

Your membership supports our core purpose, which is to sustain fisheries through cooperative management.

Members receive a newsletter on the latest events affecting Yukon River salmon fisheries and voting privileges for their District’s representatives.

IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN FISHERIES
YRDFA WORKS TO:

• Solve problems in fisheries management
• Sustain wild salmon populations
• Keep people informed of current fisheries issues
• Restore salmon habitat and depressed runs

ANNUAL DUES:

☐ Subsistence Only User (1 year) .................................................. $5
☐ Subsistence Only User (2 year) .................................................. $10
☐ Sport User/General Public ......................................................... $10
☐ Commercial Permit Holder or Crew Member (1 year) .... $20
☐ Commercial Permit Holder or Crew Member (2 year) .... $35
☐ Associate/Business/Corporation ................................. $100

You receive recognition & thanks in the YRDFA newsletter

Payable by cash, check or money order to: Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association

NAME ____________________________________________
AMOUNT PAID ________________________
ADDRESS ____________________________
VILLAGE ____________________________
STATE ______ ZIP ______ FISHING DISTRICT ________________
HOME PHONE # __________________ WORK PHONE # __________
FAX # __________________ EMAIL __________

WWW.YUKONSALMON.ORG

SPRING 2007

YUKON FISHERIES NEWS
Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association

Yukon River In-Season Management Teleconferences

1:00 pm Alaska Time each Tuesday

Starting the last week in May until the fish have reached their spawning grounds

Tracking the run, one week at a time

1-800-315-6338

PARTICIPANT CODE 9966815#