

Division of Sport Fish

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News Release

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COPPER RIVER GLENNALLEN SUBDISTRICT SUBSISTENCE FISHERY RESTRICTED TO WEEKLY 48-HOUR PERIODS

The Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery will close, effective 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 25th. The fishery will then reopen for a 48-hour period beginning 12:00 noon Friday, June 29 and ending 12:00 noon Sunday, July 1. Thereafter the fishery will open for 48-hour periods 12:00 noon Friday to 12:00 noon Sunday each week through August 31.

The Subdistrict will reopen to 7-day/week fishing, by emergency order, September 1st to allow harvest of coho salmon.

As of June 18, a total of 240,282 salmon were counted past the Miles Lake sonar. The preseason projection for this date was 333,896 salmon, which results in a deficit of 93,614 salmon or 28% from expected. Copper River sockeye salmon have a sustainable escapement goal (SEG) of 360,000 – 750,000 fish (5AAC 24.360). Final sockeye salmon spawning escapement is expected to range between 310,000 and 390,000 fish without restrictions to the subsistence fishery, depending on actual run entry timing. Due to the uncertainty of achieving the Copper River sockeye salmon lower bound escapement goal of 360,000 fish, fishing time and harvest potential will be reduced by restricting the Glennallen Subdistrict fishery to a single 48-hour fishing period each week through the remainder of sockeye salmon run.

The department will reevaluate sonar counts each week and may add additional time to weekly openings if sonar counts improve or may take further restrictions if sonar counts decline.

Information regarding the fishery can be found at the ADF&G web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=ByAreaSubsistenceCopper.main>. This site provides information regarding the Upper Copper River fisheries including: fishery descriptions and summaries, maps of the subdistricts, a listing of vendors that carry the permits, and links to the sonar numbers and fishing schedule emergency orders.

Any changes on the status of this fishery will be announced on the Chitina Fishery information line at 822-5224 (Glennallen), 459-7382 (Fairbanks), and 267-2511 (Anchorage). Please contact an information phone line prior to planning your trip to the fishery to ensure that the fishery will be open when you arrive. If you have any questions regarding the Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence fishery, please contact the ADF&G office in Glennallen at (907) 822-3309.

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