

**2015: Outlook and Forecast for Chinook Salmon Timing**

**Lower Yukon River (Area Y-1), June 1, 2015**

**Outlook**

The outlook for Yukon River Chinook salmon timing in 2015 calls for an average to slightly late run this year. The first significant pulse (15% point) of Chinook is expected to cross the delta around **June 15,** which is one day later than the long-term average 1961 – 2014.The half-way point (50%) in the run will be reached about **June 23,** which is two days later than the long term average. While the April mean air temperature at Nome this year (-5.89 C) was slightly warmer than average, the average sea surface temperatures (-1.69 C) in waters adjacent to the delta were slightly colder than average, and the average spring (March 20 – May 31) sea ice concentrations (55.7%) in waters between the delta and St. Lawrence Island (Shpanberg Strait) were close to average.

**Forecast 2015**

Based on the relationship between the dates of the three percentiles (15%, 25%, 50%) and the sea ice concentrations and the air and sea surface temperatures, the predicted dates of the three percentiles are **June 15** (15%), **June 17** (25%), and **June 23** (50%) in District Y-1 of the Lower Yukon River

**Predicted % Points 2015**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Fifteen** | **June 15** |
| **Twenty-five** | **June 17** |
| **Fifty** | **June 23** |

Updates will be issued as the season progresses whenever the run timing appears to be deviating from the forecast. For updates, details of the statistical analysis, and more information on this year’s environmental data, please go to <http://www.aoos.org/2015-yukon-chinook-forecasting/>

**Credits**

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