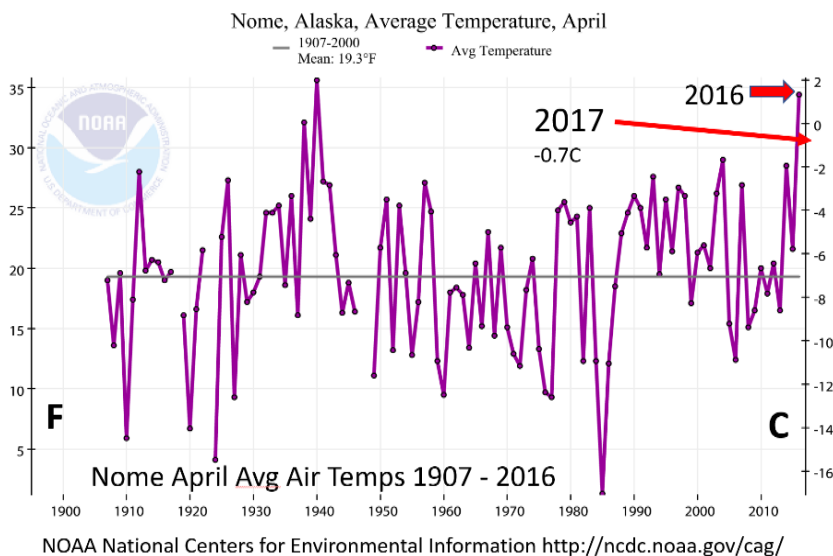




**2017: Initial Prospects for Yukon Chinook Salmon Timing
Lower Yukon River (ADFG Area Y-1), May 11, 2017**

The final timing forecast for Yukon River Chinook Salmon will be issued during the first week of June

This is an alert to the possibility of an early Chinook run on the Yukon delta for harvesters, managers and the public. Under the earliest possible scenario the numbers of Chinook entering the lower river would start building the last week of the month (May) with the first significant jump, or pulse, in abundance expected around the end of the first week in June. April mean air temperature is the early warning signal among the climate indicators in [the timing models and analysis](#), providing a qualitative first look at Chinook run timing for the Yukon delta area. The analysis of 56 past years of chinook catches and environmental conditions teaches us to be alert for the possibility of early runs following warmer than average Aprils. The early run flag was set when Nome experienced its second very warm April in a



row, with a mean air temperature of 31.7F (-0.7C), which is a substantial 12.4F warmer than the long-term average. Last year's April mean air temperature in Nome finished above the freezing mark (34.4F) for [only the second time since monthly records began in 1907](#). Even so, a warm April is no guarantee of an early run. Some late runs have been preceded by warm Aprils, which is why the more precise numerical timing forecast is

made later in the year when better information on sea ice and temperatures become available, enabling forecasts of daily percentages of the run during June and early July. As the new information becomes available at the end of May, a numerical timing forecast of percentage points of the run by date will be displayed on the [project web site](#) along with temperatures and sea ice concentrations.

Credits

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