

## KIYU Issues and Programs 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2018 Jan-Mar

KIYU is committed to providing quality radio by producing local content in the form of news, public service announcements, locally based interviews, community events and news.

Each week, KIYU produces 2 hours of local news broadcasts, 8 hours of community service information programs, a minimum of an hour of PSAs among other programming.

Our doors and phone lines are open for local leaders to share information pertinent to the listening area, which through our various stations encompasses villages serving the Yukon and Koyukuk River region and 17 hours of shared programming to affiliate in Fairbanks.

Issues covered during this period include:

Ongoing-Coverage of employment opportunities for Tanana Chiefs Conference, City of Galena and City of St. Mary's. These are ongoing on-air three times daily.

January 21 -Promotion of Alaska's Permanent Fund Dividend. On-going legislation on its future and assisting listeners with how to and reminders to apply.

1/15/18-2/18/18-Coverage of Tanana Chiefs Conference new requirements related to electronic medical record system and how it will affect service at clinics.

3/12/18-3/20/18-Concerns from the City of Nulato on drugs and alcohol being smuggled in and bootlegged during sacred "Stickman Festival".

3/29/18-Promotion and participation in Choose Respect March for the campaign against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

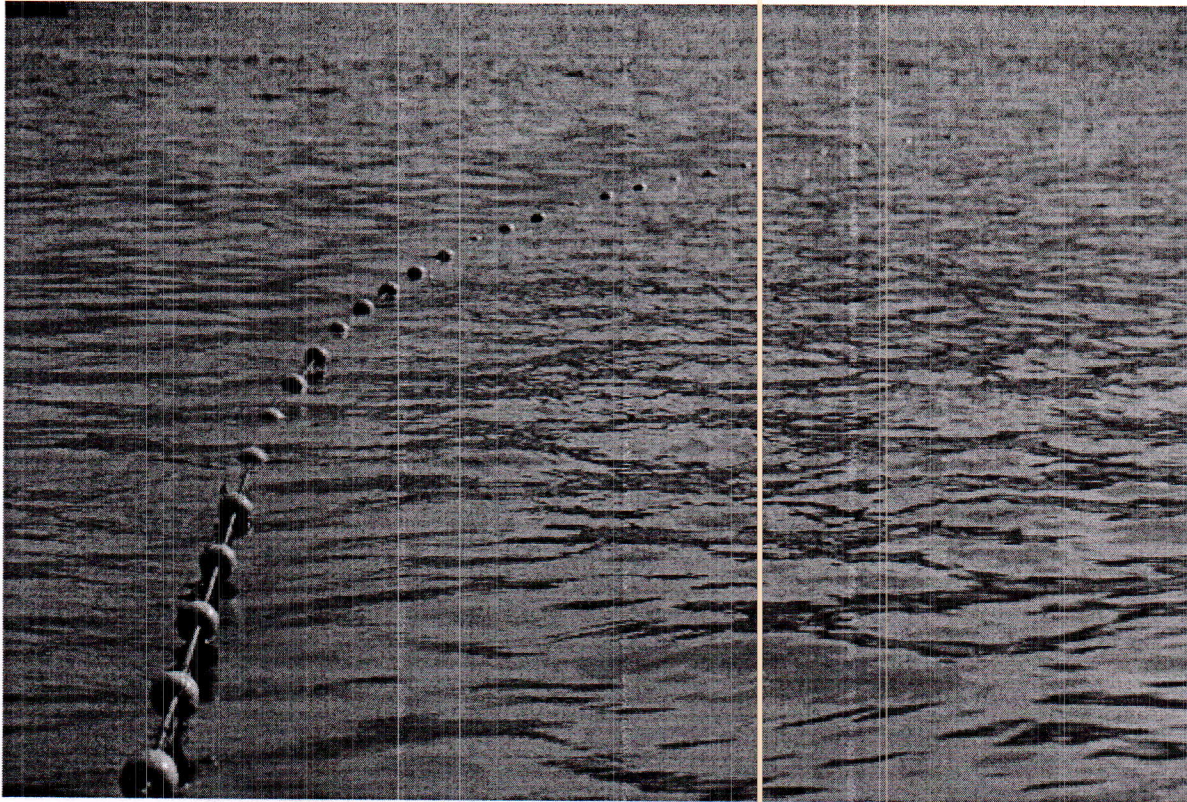
Newscasts concerning (see following):

City of Galena utility rates

Various Fish and Game regulations



## Board of Fish OKs drift net fishing around Galena and Ruby



March 9

The ban on driftnet use in state waters near Galena and Ruby is over.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries voted unanimously at its meeting in Anchorage on Thursday to approve a proposal put forth by the tribal councils of Galena, Koyukuk and Nulato to make drift gillnets legal in the area for the first time since 1976. The Board had rejected similar proposals on five prior occasions.

Board member Israel Payton justified his 'yes' vote by noting that current regulations, which required Galena driftnet users to travel 30 miles to an adjacent fishing district, did not provide reasonable subsistence opportunities.

"We heard in the committee work how users will be working all day and then will have to get in their boat and go down and try to fish all night, then come back and work the next day. I don't think that provides reasonable opportunity, Payton said Thursday.

The Department of Fish and Game had long opposed the reintroduction of driftnet fishing in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C, on the grounds that it would result in a large increase in king salmon harvest. But explaining Fish and Game's newfound support of the proposal, Yukon River



Summer Season Manager Holly Carroll told the Board on Thursday that opening the Galena area to driftnetting would be a good thing for subsistence users throughout District 4.

"It is a great cost to fishermen to have to go meet their subsistence needs by traveling so far. And it is also increasing competition in the lower area – in 4-A. It is causing a lot of congestion in that fishing area," Carroll told the Board.

Opponents argued that the increased use of driftnets on the middle Yukon would likely result in a greater harvest of Canadian-origin king salmon, which are protected by an international treaty and critical for the continued recovery of the depleted Yukon king salmon stock. Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission President Stephanie Quinn-Davidson agreed that more Canadian-bound kings could be caught. But based on Galena's average king harvest, she calculated that the increase shouldn't make a big difference.

"If you say on average that the Galena area catches about 2500 king salmon, right now fishing in front of Koyukuk, and 50% of that harvest is Canadian fish. Then they go up to Galena and catch the same amount, now 60 to 65 or 70% is Canadian origin fish. That's only a difference of about 250 fish," she told the Board during the Committee of the Whole session on Wednesday.

"That is not going to make or break the escapement objective at the border, and I don't think it is fair to unnecessarily punish this region for 250 king salmon."

Fish and Game managers can still ban the use of driftnets in a given year if the salmon run is weak.

The new regulations will also allow drifting for fall chum and coho salmon, beginning August 2nd.

An amendment brought forth on Wednesday by Board Member Orville Huntington from Huslia expanded the legal driftnet area to *all* of Subdistricts 4-b and 4-c, including Ruby. The original proposal would have only applied from Bishop Mountain to the mouth of the Yuki. A requirement for nets to be no more than 35 meshes deep was also removed in the revised language.

In other action on Thursday, the Board of Fisheries removed a ban on subsistence fishing during the first pulse of king salmon up the Yukon, and a ban on the sale of king salmon taken as bycatch in the chum salmon commercial fishery. Fish and Game now can allow both activities if certain conditions are met.

The Alaska Board of Fisheries on Wednesday began its discussions about a handful of emergency proposals concerning Yukon River salmon fisheries, including the move to open driftnet fishing in state waters between Galena and Ruby.

In the second day of its Anchorage meeting, the Board gathered as a committee of the whole to ask questions and gather additional information from managers and local residents. Formal action on proposals is scheduled to begin on Thursday.

Proposal 230 was submitted by the tribal councils of Galena, Nulato and Koyukuk, and seeks to reverse a long-standing ban on the use of drift gillnets to harvest salmon in subdistricts 4-B and 4-C, including Galena and Ruby. The proposal would allow state residents to use driftnets from June 10th through July 14th to catch king salmon, with the Department of Fish and Game reserving the right to shut the fishery down by emergency order. It would also allow for driftnet use after August 2nd to target fall chum salmon.

Louden Tribal Council Administrator Susie Sam from Galena told the Board during the committee session on Wednesday that approving the proposal would be a move towards greater equality for Galena residents, most of whom have to travel more than 30 river miles into Subdistrict 4-A to catch king and fall chum salmon at suitable driftnet sites.

"In 2018, we never through we would be fighting for equal rights for anything. But this is what we are doing today," Sam told the Board.

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission President Stephanie Quinn-Davidson addressed a few of the arguments that opponents have leveled against the proposal, including the prediction that increased fishing in front of Galena will result in a greater harvest of Canadian-origin king salmon, which tend to be larger and are subject to a treaty between the United States and Canada.

Davidson agreed that driftnet use in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C would likely result in more Canadian kings being pulled from the water, but in the grand scheme of things, it shouldn't make much of a difference.

"On average the Galena area catches about 2500 king salmon, right now fishing in front of Koyukuk, and 50% of that harvest is Canadian fish. Then if they go up to Galena and catch the same amount, now 60 to 65 or 70 % is Canadian origin fish. That's only a difference of about 250 fish. That is not going to make or break the escapement objective at the border, and I don't think it is fair to unnecessarily punish this region for 250 king salmon," Quinn-Davidson suggested.

No Board members indicated any opposition to the proposal during the committee discussion.

An amendment to the original proposal has been submitted by the Department of Fish and Game, which would open *all* of Subdistrict 4-B and 4-C to drift gillnet fishing, and not just the stretch from the beginning of the district near Bishop Mountain to the Yuki River, as originally proposed.

Another proposed amendment would remove a requirement that driftnets used in the area be no more than 35 meshes deep.



In pre-meeting comments, the Department of Fish and Game reversed its long-standing opposition to the expansion of driftnet fishing in the Galena to register support the proposal – so long as king returns are adequate to support the possible increase in harvest levels.

The Board of Fisheries is scheduled to vote on the proposal today (Thursday), along with proposals to allow subsistence fishing on the first pulse of king salmon in lower Yukon districts 1 and 2, and to clarify how and when Fish and Game can allow the sale of incidentally-caught king salmon from the lower Yukon chum salmon commercial fishery.

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Galena City Council introduces utility rate change ordinance  
February 14, 2018

The Galena City Council will move ahead with a plan to change utility rates. At its meeting on Tuesday night, the Council voted to introduce an ordinance that would lower electric rates to 59.6 cents per kilowatt-hour – down about 8 cents from current rates.

Water prices would go up 7.7 cents per gallon for piped water in new town Galena, and 10.3 cents per gallon for delivered water. Water hauled from the new town water point would remain at 5 cents per gallon. Water produced at the base would cost 8.4 cents per gallon hauled, or 8.1 cents via pipe to Galena City School District-operated facilities.

Sewer haul-out fees would drop by 2 or 3 dollars per pump, depending on the size of the sewer tank. Piped sewage service would go up slightly to 6.6 cents per gallon.

The monthly residential garbage fee is slated to go up to \$22.40 per household from the current level of \$20 per household.

The City Council has to take another vote on these rate changes before they would go into effect. A public hearing and final vote on the ordinance should occur at the Council's March meeting.

The City Council also approved a lease agreement with BLM for rooms at the Iditarod Inn dormitory on the GILA campus. BLM will get access to 10 rooms on April 15th, and 10 additional rooms on May 15th each year.

The Council passed a resolution of support for the emergency action request that will go before the Board of Fisheries at its March 6-9 meeting, which would open Yukon River Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C to drift gillnet use. The proposal is spearheaded by the tribal councils of Galena, Koyukuk and Nulato.

The full text of the utility rate ordinance introduced by the City Council on February 14 is available [here](#).