



IN-SEASON ADJUSTMENT TO THE YUROK TRIBAL FISHING RIGHTS ORDINANCE

NUMBER: 2017-01

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 7, 2017 (9:00 a.m.) through July 29, 2017

SUBJECT: Sturgeon and Spring Chinook Conservation Regulations

The Yurok Tribal Council is concerned that Klamath River sturgeon may be in decline and that the abundance of wild spring Chinook (primarily the Salmon and South Fork Trinity River populations) has been extremely low during recent years. Therefore, the Council has adopted the following regulations as conservation measures:

1. No fishing, except angling, will be allowed from Monday at 9:00 a.m. through Friday at 9:00 a.m., except for Memorial Day, when the fishery will remain open until 9:00 a.m. on the following Tuesday and July 4th when the fishery will open at 9:00 a.m. July 4 through 9:00 a.m. July 5.
2. Tribal members may only barter up to 5 spring Chinook salmon per week (defined as Sunday through the following Saturday) to Yurok Tribal members.
3. All white sturgeon must be released.
4. No fishing shall be permitted within 1300 feet below Coon Creek Falls.
5. Each fisher may keep no more than two green sturgeon during 2017. Sturgeon must be tagged when removed from the net, through a hole punched through the dorsal fin near the front edge, and the tag cinched snugly. Fishers can only possess fish tagged with the individually numbered tags issued to them by the Tribe or given them by an elder to catch the elder's fish. Tags can be obtained from the fish counters, Jami McCovey at the Klamath office, or Elizabeth Davis at the Weitchpec office. Possession of untagged sturgeon is prohibited. Elders need to get their own tags and may assign their tags to a particular fisher to catch their fish.
6. Penalties for violation of these inseason adjustment sections 1, 3, and 4 shall be at Level 2 as defined in the Fishing Rights Ordinance, and level 3 for sections 2 and 5.

Thomas O'Rourke, Chairperson
Yurok Tribal Council

4/6/17

Date



- (a) **Barter and Sale Prohibited.** Sturgeon are subsistence fish, but no fisher shall barter, trade, or sell sturgeon for commercial or subsistence use. Sturgeon is only for direct subsistence by a Tribal member and his or her family and may not be bartered with anyone, including with Tribal members.

SECTION 1302. Use of Subsistence Fish

Barter, trade, or sale of fish to Yurok Tribal members for direct consumption as food shall be generally permitted. Bartering of fish must be conducted in accordance with section 1309. Barter, trade, or sale of sturgeon is prohibited. Spring Chinook salmon may not be sold. The Tribal Council may impose any limitations on subsistence that are necessary to protect fishery resources or to ensure that all fish caught are used for subsistence purposes.

- (a) **Holding of Sturgeon.** A fisher shall not hold sturgeon alive, except while the fisher is tending his or her net or processing fish on site. Any sturgeon found alive shall be released if it appears healthy enough to survive, otherwise the sturgeon will be confiscated and distributed to elders.
- (b) **Release of Large Sturgeon.** A fisher shall release all sturgeon 6 feet or longer, measured in a straight line from the nose to the tip of the tail.

SECTION 1303. Dorsal Fin Clip of Subsistence Salmon and Steelhead

All subsistence salmon and all steelhead must have the dorsal fin completely removed to within one-half inch of the fish's back, except Chinook salmon that meet Elders Fishery requirements in section 1312 are not to be clipped. The dorsal fin must be removed prior to cleaning, gutting, or transporting and within 15 minutes of first handling the fish. Any salmon taken in the Middle or Upper Klamath, including salmon to be smoked for commercial use, must be clipped.