

## August 2, 2007

It looks like our fishing season is switching gears. Put away your King clubs and grab your Silver sticks. The Kenai River drainage is now closed for Kings. We have Reds still coming in and Silvers are starting to make their way. As for you Halibut hunters and derby chasers we have some staggering numbers for you to take a look at. In Homer as of right now we have a 358 pounder in the lead, in Valdez we have a 340 pounder in first place and in Seward even though the derby is over they have a 356 pounder on record. That's a pretty tight race right there, they don't call em barn doors for no reason. The Valdez Silver Salmon Derby has started and they have a 14 pounder to kick it off. Oh don't forget you ladies out there, the Valdez Women's Silver Derby is coming up on August 11<sup>th</sup>. That little derby there has grown considerably over the past couple years and all the girls say they have a great time. The Seward Silver Salmon Derby also starts on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August so make sure you get a couple days to go give it your best shot. In Anchorage the Slammin Silver Salmon Derby starts the 3rd and runs through the 12th. So hopefully you took a little time to catch up on your honey do's cause its time once again to get busy. In Homer things are running as expected Halibut fishing in both Homer and Deep Creek is going very well and I hear there are still feeder Kings out there to be caught. Silvers are coming in out that way and the Homer Lagoon is open for the taking, the limit there is 6 a day! That's what I call easy pickings. If dip netting China Poot is in your plans of things to do you better get busy because it closes August 8<sup>th</sup>. If you're fishing Kenai you need to know the Kenai River drainage is now closed to King fishing. Don't fret though we still have Reds showing up. In Anchorage I hear fishing for Silvers is going pretty well and I'd expect this weekend to absolutely awesome at Ship Creek. Other good places to try would be Bird and Campbell Creeks. Remember we have gear restrictions there for your own protection because bears are pretty popular out there right now. Valdez is full of Pinks right now with Silvers starting to show up in the bay as well as the local rivers. As far as the Valley goes my own personal opinion is things have been slow, on the other hand I think this is going to be a good weekend for us. I hear Alexander catching has been slow and fewer than 1000 silvers have passed the Deshka weir. The Little Su has also been slow but picking up fast. The Tailrace and Jim Creek has been doing average but all are expected to improve this weekend. There are indeed also Silvers being caught in all the Parks Highway streams but like elsewhere not in any big numbers. All in all I think our waiting period is over and I really think this weekend is gonna change around and offer us a lot of fresh feisty Coho. So put the mower away call your buddies and plan on having some fun this weekend. Oh and a little tip for you all. Identifying your fish, if you're out there trying to catch Silvers, remember, Silvers have small black spots on their back and upper lobe of their tail. With the rivers looking like alphabet soup of fresh shiny Salmon I notice people are keeping Reds and Chum thinking they are Silvers. Know your regs and know your fish, that'll keep you outta trouble. My pick this weekend is definitely the Little Su, I just have a hunch.