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## **PRESS RELEASE - December 10, 2019**

The Yukon River Panel (the Panel), established by the U.S./Canada Yukon River Salmon Agreement, met in Whitehorse, Yukon from December 8-10, 2019. The Panel, which operates under the Yukon River Salmon Agreement (Pacific Salmon Treaty), consists of 12 Alaska and Yukon residents from throughout the Yukon River drainage and is advised by regional advisors, resource users, scientists, and fishery managers from both Canada and the United States.

The Panel received scientific and technical presentations on the outcome of the 2019 Canadian and United States origin salmon runs and fishery management actions that were taken. Additional presentations to the Panel were delivered on management, research and assessment activities focusing on Chinook and Chum salmon. The Panel schedules a number of opportunities for public testimony at each of its meetings. Public testimony provided at the December meeting was especially noteworthy and warmly received by Panel members who place significant value on the feedback they receive. The Panel's public session was successfully livestreamed via video link to the internet allowing interested parties otherwise unable to attend in person the opportunity to follow the meeting remotely.

### **Restoration and Enhancement Fund**

The Yukon River Panel expects that up to \$1.4 million U.S. of funding will be available to fund salmon and habitat Restoration and Enhancement projects in Alaska and Yukon in 2020. The Panel has received 35 Project Proposals submitted in response to the Yukon River Restoration and Enhancement Fund's 2020 Call for Project Proposals. Following consideration of recommendations from the Restoration and Enhancement Technical Sub-Committee and comments received from the public, the Panel will select the project proposals that will receive funding at its Spring 2020 meeting. Further information on 2020 Restoration and Enhancement Fund Project Proposals and instructions on how to submit public comments are available on the Yukon River Panel's website at:

<https://www.yukonriverpanel.com/news-and-announcements/restoration-and-enhancement-fund-2020-call-for-public-comments/>

The Panel's next meeting will be held in Alaska from April 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Confirmation of meeting details, including specific location, venue, agenda items and timing of public / closed sessions will be available in early 2020 on the Yukon River Panel's website at:

<http://www.yukonriverpanel.com/meetings/>