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## **GOODNEWS RIVER FLOAT**

The Goodnews River float starts at Goodnews Lake and ends at Goodnews Village. The river is 50 miles long from lake to village and is good for a 5-7 day float. The Goodnews River is smaller than the Kanektok River and is not able to handle as many user days. It gets about 35% of the use. The Goodnews has 3,000 client use days and the Kanektok has 8,000 client use days a year. If the parties going down the river are spaced properly the fishing will be very good. The only commercial guide activity other than fly-in day use is on the lower end of the river. I think that there is only one commercial operator at this spot. This river is ideal for the fly fisherman because of the river's small size and abundance of fish; however, because of the small size of the river and fewer number of user days I would consider this river to be approaching it's capacity for excellent fishing.

Goodnews Lake is in a very scenic spot at the head of Goodnews Valley. The lake has trout in it and there is good hiking in this area. The Goodnews River is well known for it's Rainbow fishing. The river also has fantastic Dolly fishing and fair Grayling fishing.

The Goodnews River also has healthy salmon runs. This river has an escapement of 55,000 Reds, 3,800 Kings, and 15,000 Chums. The total average run for Coho is 47,000 and the total average run for Pink Salmon is 56,000 fish.

This river combines good resident fishing with good salmon fishing. The prime time for King fishing is June 20 through July 5. The prime Silver fishing is August 7 through September 1.

The last 7 miles of the river is tidal and there are a couple of ways to deal with this. We can pick you up on the lower river with the Beaver; or, a local Goodnews man named Bavilla Merrit can pick you up in his power boat and transport you back to the local airport where you can fly to Dillingham with a Cessna 207 on wheels.

Cost of Goodnews River Float:

Drop off at Goodnews Lake (Beaver)                    \$1400

Or...Drop off at Kakatlum (middle fork)            \$1300

Goodnews River P/U (Beaver)                            \$1900

Or...Bavilla Merrit Boat P/U on Lower River-transport to Goodnews Village-\$100 minimum or \$75/passenger.

Wheelplane P/U Goodnews Village estimate \$1300/trip.

Raft Rental \$90/day for 13 ft Sotar self-bailing raft with rowing frame.