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## **Advisory Announcement**

**CONTACT:** 

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Deena Jallen, Area Management Biologist Mike Parker, Assistant Area Management Biologist 1-907-949-1320 (Emmonak) Toll free fishing schedule and counts: 1-866-479-7387

2025 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #8 Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C Subsistence Fishing Schedule Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

Based on the timing of Chinook salmon migration, fishing in Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C will close on June 20. This closure is intended to protect Chinook salmon stocks as they migrate upriver to spawning grounds in Alaska and Canada. The 2025 Chinook salmon run size is forecasted to be well below average and be similar in size to the run last year. A run of this size is unlikely to meet escapement objectives or provide any harvestable surplus.

During this salmon closure, fishing for nonsalmon species will still be allowed with gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh. However, if Chinook salmon are caught in these nets, fishermen are encouraged to move their gear to protect the run. Later in the season <u>all gillnets</u> will be closed to protect the bulk of the Chinook salmon run from incidental harvest; fishermen should stand by for future announcements with the closure dates. The toll-free phone recording (1-866-479-7387) will be updated when management actions are announced for each district.

If the summer chum salmon run is projected to exceed the drainagewide minimum escapement goal of 500,000 fish, openings with selective gear types will be announced.

Assessment projects and management updates will be published in weekly Advisory Announcements (Updates). Daily sonar passage estimates, and LYTF test fish numbers will be shared on Facebook (Yukon River Fishing - ADFG) and on the toll-free phone recording: 1-866-479-7387.

The ADF&G Emmonak office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Saturdays and Sundays). ADF&G Emmonak office can be reached at: 1-907-949-1320.

Weekly teleconferences hosted by YRDFA will take place Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. The call-in number is 1-800-315-6338, and the participation code is Yukon# (98566#).

## **Subsistence Management Actions**

Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used during salmon fishing closures to target nonsalmon species. Fishermen are reminded to set this gear in areas where they will avoid incidental harvest of salmon. Any salmon that are caught in this gear may be kept, but fishermen are encouraged to release any live Chinook salmon whenever possible.

Nonlethal or selective gear types for nonsalmon may also still be used, including hook and line, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, and fyke net. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook and summer chum salmon must be released alive.

## Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C (including Tanana and Rampart):

Subsistence fishing is currently open 24 hours a day, seven days per week with 7.5-inch or smaller mesh gillnets.

Effective 8 p.m. Friday, June 20, Chinook and chum salmon fishing is closed. Gillnets larger than 4-inch are not allowed. Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used to target nonsalmon and are restricted to 60-feet or less in length and must be operated as a set net near shore.

A subsistence fishing permit is required in the portion of Subdistrict 5-C from the western most tip of Garnet Island upstream to the ADF&G regulatory marker two miles downstream of Waldron Creek (Dalton Highway bridge area).

As a general reminder, gillnets must be marked with a float or buoy with the fisherman's first initial, last name, and address. In District 5, submerged gillnets may be used for subsistence fishing during ice-free months, however submerged nets must have a visible buoy or cluster of floats attached to both ends of the net, plus a third float in the middle if the net is over 60 feet in length.

## **Federal Special Action**

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have coordinated on this advisory announcement. The USFWS Federal Inseason Manager has issued a separate Fishery special action FSA 2-KS-06-25 closing Chinook and summer chum salmon fishing and restricting nonsalmon gillnets in waters adjacent to Federal Land. To reach the USFWS Yukon River Subsistence Fishery Manager, call Holly Carroll at 907-351-3029.



This is an announcement by the ADF&G and the USFWS. Federal Special Actions will be posted on <u>www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions</u>.

ADF&G Advisory Announcements will be posted on <u>www.cfnews.adfg.alaska.gov/</u> and shared on Facebook at www.facebook.com/YukonRiverFishingADFG. PISHAWILDLIPE SERVICE