



Advisory Announcement

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Released: June 17, 2024

Toll free fishing schedule and counts: 866-479-7387

2024 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #9 **Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, and 5-C Subsistence Fishing Schedule**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The 2024 Chinook salmon forecast is for a run that is well below average and unlikely to meet escapement objectives or provide for harvest. Consistent with the preseason management strategy to take a conservative approach, subsistence fishing for salmon will close to protect Chinook salmon stocks while they migrate upriver to spawning grounds in Alaska and Canada.

During salmon closures, opportunity to harvest nonsalmon species remains open with 4-inch or smaller mesh gillnets. If you are catching Chinook salmon in a 4-inch gillnet, please move your net to protect them. Later in the season, the use of 4-inch gillnets will be closed for a two-week period in order to reduce any incidental catch of Chinook salmon heading to their spawning areas.

The summer chum salmon run is being assessed as it enters the river. A few summer chum salmon have been caught in the Lower Yukon Test Fishery (LYTF) and Pilot Station sonar test fisheries, but catches and estimates are below average. When the summer chum salmon run is projected to meet the lower end of the drainagewide escapement goal (at least 500,000 fish), fishing opportunities with selective gear types may be announced.

Assessment project and management updates will be published in weekly Advisory Announcements (Updates) and shared during the weekly YRDFA teleconferences on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. (Alaska time). Call in number: 1-800-315-6338, Passcode: 98566# (YUKON#)

The ADF&G Emmonak office is open regular hours; Mondays to Fridays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Sundays). ADF&G Emmonak office: 1-907-949-1320.

Subsistence Management Actions

Gillnets of 4-inch or smaller mesh may be used during salmon fishing closures to target nonsalmon. Fishermen are reminded to set this gear in areas where nonsalmon species are abundant to avoid incidentally harvesting salmon. While any salmon caught in this gear may be kept, if it appears Chinook salmon are being targeted with this gear, it could be further restricted. Fishermen are encouraged to release any Chinook salmon that are still 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 and fish wheels.

Effective 8 p.m. Sunday, June 23, Chinook and chum salmon fishing is closed. Fish wheels and 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. Nets should be set near shore.

Other gear types for nonsalmon species include hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, fyke net, lead, and spear. Pink and sockeye salmon may be retained. Chinook and chum salmon must be released alive.

A subsistence permit is required to fish for all species in 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). If you are outside the permit area, contact the Fairbanks office at 907-459-7274 for a subsistence harvest calendar.

As a general reminder, gillnets must be marked with a buoy, float, or keg that has 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 float attached to both ends of the net**, plus a third 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 Federal special action FSA 2-KS-06-24 with the same fishing schedule for Federal public waters of the Yukon Area. 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 www.doi.gov/subsistence/fisheries-special-actions.

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

