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Advisory Announcement

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

2024 Yukon River Salmon Summer Fishery Announcement #22 Subdistricts 5-A, 5-B, 5-C selective gear opening

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

As of July 11, over 691,000 summer chum salmon have passed Pilot Station sonar and the run is within the drainagewide escapement goal of 500,000 to 1,200,000 fish. Based on travel timing, summer chum salmon from the second and third pulses will be arriving in District 5 starting on July 16. At Pilot Station Sonar the first and second pulses of summer chum salmon were 155,477 and 185,231 fish.

To allow for the subsistence harvest of summer chum salmon, fishing will open with selective gear types. Summer chum, pink, and sockeye salmon and nonsalmon may be retained from dip nets, beach seines, manned fish wheels, and hook and line gear. Chinook salmon must be released alive immediately. Fishermen are reminded to practice respectful and safe fish handling techniques and ensure any Chinook salmon caught in selective or nonsalmon gear types are released alive so they may continue upriver to their spawning grounds. If it appears that Chinook salmon are being targeted while fishing for summer chum with selective gear types, fishing will be further restricted.

Nonsalmon gillnet gear is also reopening after being closed for a two-week period. 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 nonsalmon gear types remain open, including hook and line, fyke net, spear, hand line, lead, longline, spear, dip net, and beach seine. Chinook salmon must be released alive from all nonsalmon and selective gear types.

Subsistence Management Actions

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

As previously announced, <u>all gillnets</u> must be removed from the water for a two-week period until 8 p.m. Friday, July 19. After 8 p.m. Friday, July 19, 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.

Effective 8 p.m. Friday, July 19, fishing with selective gear types (dip nets, beach seines, manned fish wheels, hook and line gear) is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week until further notice for summer chum, pink, and sockeye salmon. Chinook 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.

Gear types remaining open all season for nonsalmon species include hook and line with a rod or pole, dip net, beach seine, hand line, longline, fyke net, lead, and spear. Chinook salmon must be released alive.

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-15-24 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.